Once upon a time, long, long ago . . .  
A geological fairytale

He spotted some graded bedding and, using this to weigh up the options, realised that all he could do was walk. So he walked until he came to a fault in the story.

So he walked until he came to a fault in the story, and walked and walked until he became very hot and thirsty. Being a thinking geologist, he took the back off his watch and had a drink from the spring. The spring overflowed and formed a mighty river in front of him but, he was a thinking geologist, so he just waited until 4 o’clock when the banks close and walked across.

He walked even further and became really lost so he saw a man and asked the way home. “That’s easy” said the man, “You go straight down the crooked lane and all round the square.” So he tried and became even more lost. Then he visited the ‘Lost and found’ and found himself all over again.

After many more adventures he eventually got back to his own country, where he married a lady geologist, had lots of little geologists and lived rockily ever after.

The End
- or a new beginning?
The back up

**Title:** Once upon a time, long, long ago . . .

**Subtitle:** A geological fairytale

**Topic:** A once a pun a time geological tale

**Age range of pupils:** 5 - 500 years

**Time needed to complete activity:** 5 minutes.

**Pupil learning outcomes:** Pupils can: groan loudly at every 'joke'.

**Context:** A geological fairyland.

**Following up the activity:** Can you make up a better story?

**Underlying principles:** Geologists should not mess with prose.

**Thinking skill development:** A strange imagination.

**Resource list:** A stranger imagination

**Source:** Chris King, who used to be a welcome member of the Earthlearningidea Team - with thanks to Donald Davidson for the cartoons.