

William Smith is known as the Father of English Geology.

From observations he made underground at Mearns Pit and along the route of the Somerset Coal Canal, he realised that the rocks layers were arranged in a predictable pattern and that they always followed the same sequences. He also suggested that you could identify each particular bed of rock from the fossils it contained.

Stratigraphy is the series of rules that tells you the age of a bed of rock relative to the strata (the beds of rock) above and below it, and the fossils it contains. He was nicknamed 'Strata Smith'.

Image used courtesy of The Geological Society



Activity

Complete the Sudoku grid below. The 6 x 6 William Smith Sudoku works the same as a regular Sudoku puzzle. Place the six words from the word bank so that each one appears only once in each row, column, and box.

Word bank for Sudoku puzzle		
Coal	Fossil	Geology
Stratigraphy	William Smith	Mearns Pit

William Smith		Mearns Pit	Geology		Fossil
	Fossil			Stratigraphy	
Stratigraphy			Fossil		
Mearns Pit		Fossil	Strata Smith		Stratigraphy
	William Smith			Mearns Pit	
Strata Smith			William Smith		

This resource is one of a group of resources for KS1, 2 and 3 on the subject of the Somerset Coal Canal and coalfield.

More information from the [Somersetshire Coal Canal Society](http://www.somersetshirecoalcanal.co.uk).



Teaching notes: Answer

William Smith	Stratigraphy	Mearns Pit	Geology	Strata Smith	Fossil
Geology	Fossil	Strata Smith	Mearns Pit	Stratigraphy	William Smith
Stratigraphy	Strata Smith	William Smith	Fossil	Geology	Mearns Pit
Mearns Pit	Geology	Fossil	Strata Smith	William Smith	Stratigraphy
Fossil	William Smith	Geology	Stratigraphy	Mearns Pit	Strata Smith
Strata Smith	Mearns Pit	Stratigraphy	William Smith	Fossil	Geology

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