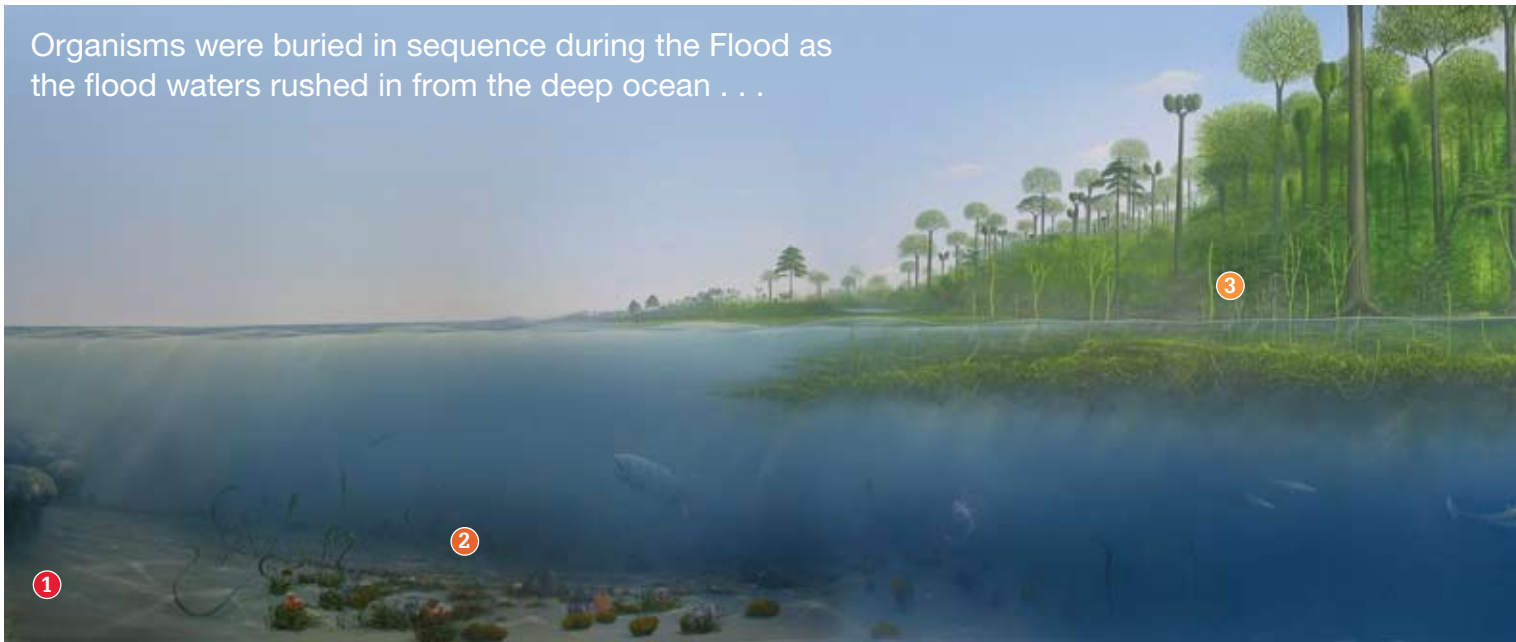


EXOTIC COMMUNITIES BURIED BY THE FLOOD

Organisms were buried in sequence during the Flood as the flood waters rushed in from the deep ocean . . .

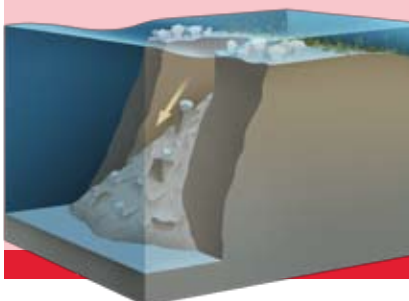


1 hot-water reefs



TODAY . . . In the lowermost fossil layers, we find stromatolites, evidence of a pre-Flood hot-water reef inhabited almost exclusively by bacteria.

4,350 YEARS AGO . . . The breakup of the great deep created a series of enormous earthquakes. These earthquakes collapsed the edge of the continental plates. Whatever was on those continental edges, such as hot-water stromatolite reefs, collapsed into deeper water.

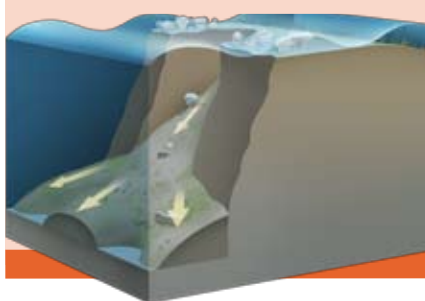


2 shallow seafloor



TODAY . . . Above Vendian stromatolites, we find fossils from many exotic ocean environments, including thousands of trilobite species.

4,350 YEARS AGO . . . Flood waves passed over the stromatolite reefs and began destroying the shallow ocean ecosystems on the wide underwater continental shelf. In ecosystem after ecosystem, organisms were carried farther out to sea and buried.

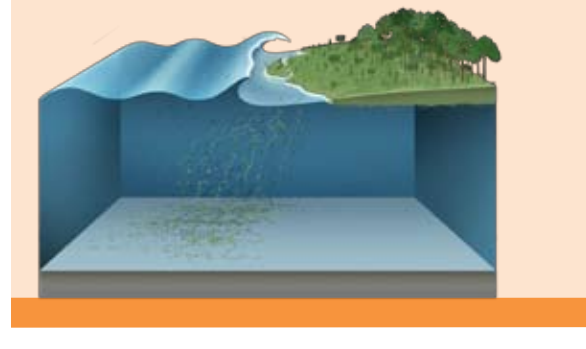


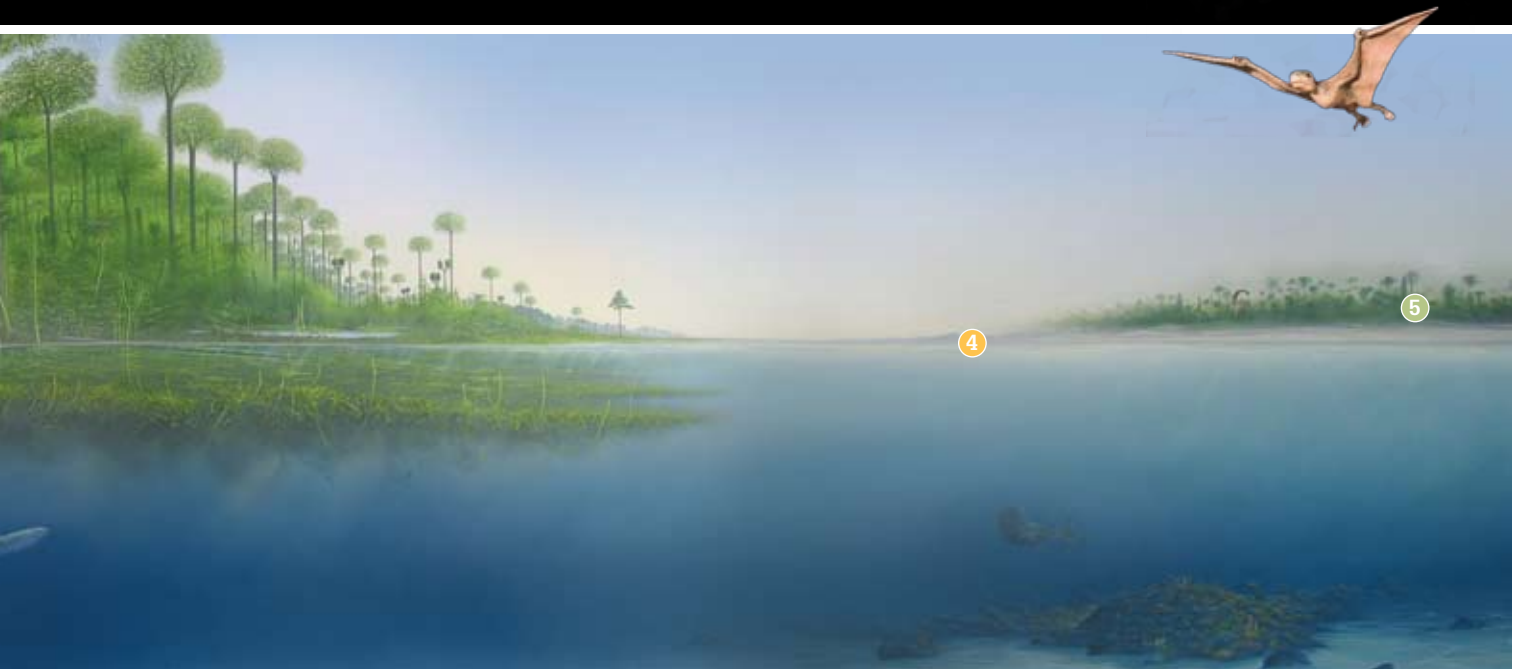
3 floating forest



TODAY . . . We find exotic plant fossils in a regular sequence from small plants to trees, supporting the pre-Flood floating forest model.

4,350 YEARS AGO . . . As Flood waters rose, the floating forest floated over the reefs toward the land. When Flood waves grew large enough, they began ripping apart the floating forest, from the outside edge inward. In a sequence reflecting the forest structure, plants torn off the forest became waterlogged, sank, and were buried on the ocean bottom.





coal



TODAY . . . In the layers at the top of the sequence of plant fossils, upright tree trunks are found sitting on top of flat-topped coal seams.

4,350 YEARS AGO . . . The destruction of the trees in the middle of the floating forest created a log mat of billions of tree trunks. Bark rubbed off the floating logs, became waterlogged, and sank to the ocean bottom. As the bark layers were buried, they were compressed and coalified into coal seams.



4 coastal dunes



TODAY . . . Above the carboniferous coals, extensive sandstone deposits are found on all the world's continents.

4,350 YEARS AGO . . . Tidal waves hit the shoreline and tore apart beaches and dunes. Sand and animals were dragged out to sea and deposited in thick layers.



5 inland



TODAY . . . Above the Permo-Triassic sandstones, we find fossils from exotic land communities, including hundreds of dinosaur species.

4,350 YEARS AGO . . . As the sea level rose, Flood waves reached farther and farther inland. Ecosystem after ecosystem of plants and animals were carried out to sea and buried.

