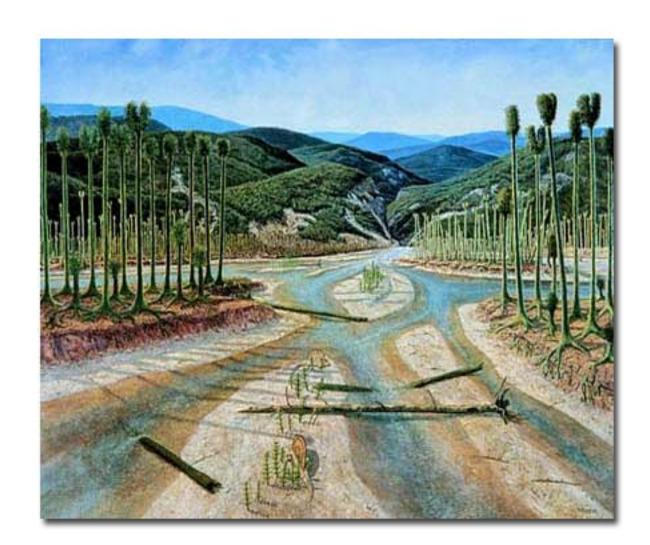
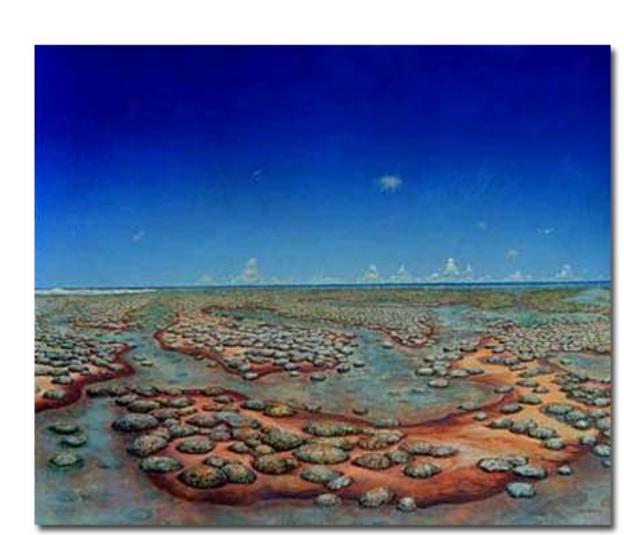


"Geologic seeing is poetic vision constrained by the sobriety of science, a series of daring imaginative leaps disciplined by examination and measurement. Defying the stereotypes of science, field geologists remain a clan of surreptitious poets. Their original aesthetic and metaphysical delight in landscapes still beats beneath their discipline's technical terms and laboratory apparatus. Field geology is a kind of walking meditation, a disciplining of the soul through the training of the eyes and body."



Tthe Fountain Formation (the Flatirons)

The Lyons Sandstone



250 million years ago The Lykins Formation

## Rock, Water, Life, & Culture: An Experiential Classroom in Nature and Culture

## Flatirons Elementary--Boulder, Colorado

"Rock, Water, Life, & Culture" is a project at Flatirons Elementary in Boulder, Colorado, that consists of the creation of an interdisciplinary outdoor learning environment combining elements of science, art, social studies, and the humanities. The project has two parts. Part 1 focuses on the creation of an outdoor classroom space made up of the four elements listed below. Subsequently, Part 2 prop ous and ongoing school curriculum projects to make full use of this unique space.

1.2 The Geology Wall will use actual samples of local rock to represent t and other strata. Adjacent to the Geology Wall, on the side of the building, a large mural will be created that depicts Colorado across geolog icture as a tool for instructing students in the nature of scientific research: juxtaposing the geologic strata to the picture of the geologic past, students will see

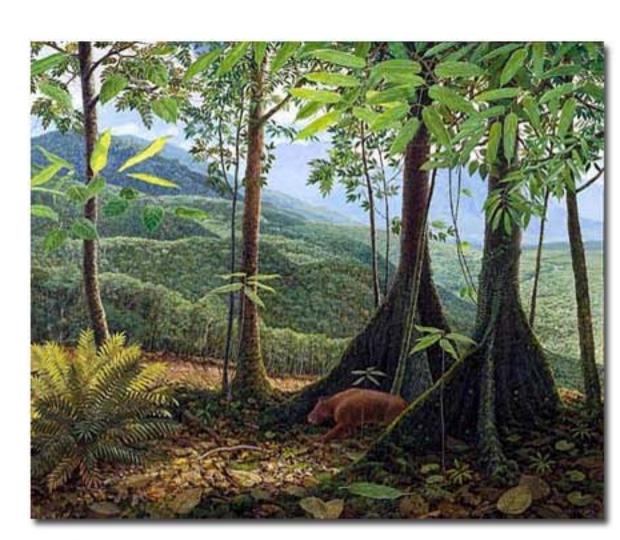
ng area. With the additional space o
used for school concerts, assembli
li
ool for Flatirons classes in subjects
rom the stage area by a shallow
t of the famous Riverwalk of San Antonio. This pool would be dry most of the time, but could be filled and
flowing during performances. The r
e botanical garden will provide ins
The wall space behind the stage woul
r performances.

1.4 The Botanical Garden will be created with mounded earth, structural plants and large boulders. Soil will be contained behind low walls just the right height for our young gardeners. The garden will collect water as it runs off the hill above. The students curricular ties to the garden: stud small Zen garden will provide opportunities for artistic expression a

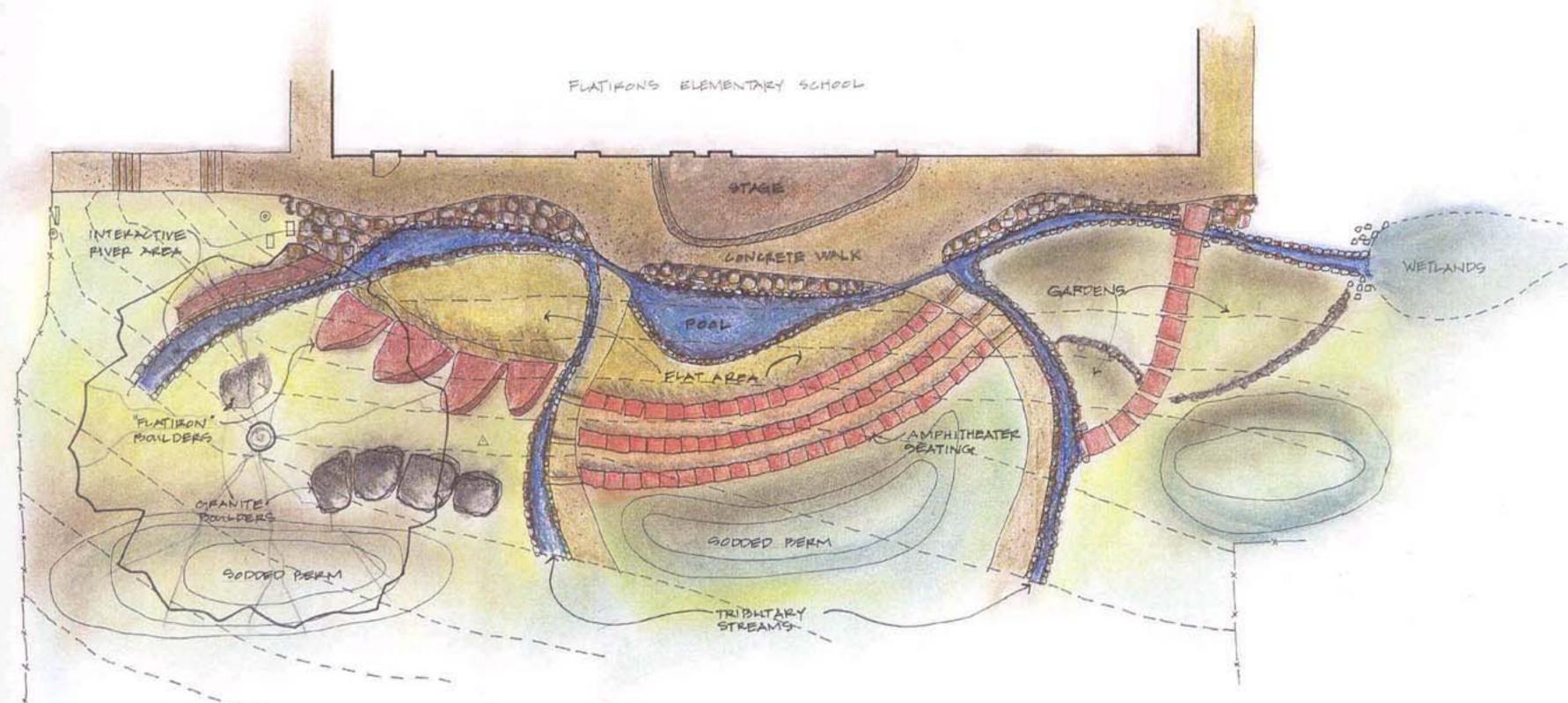
and play quietly.



100 million years ago The Pierre Shale



64 million years ago
The Denver Formation



16 Thousand years ago The end of the Ice Age

One-time permission is being obtained from the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to use the following pictures as part of the geology mural that will be placed on the south side of the building. Each of these pictures is a scientific-artistic representation of what Colorado looked like at the time these rocks were being deposited.