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Department of Biodiversity,
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Park Notes

Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park

Hamelin Bay



Department of Conservation
and Land Management

The Dynamic Limestone Coast

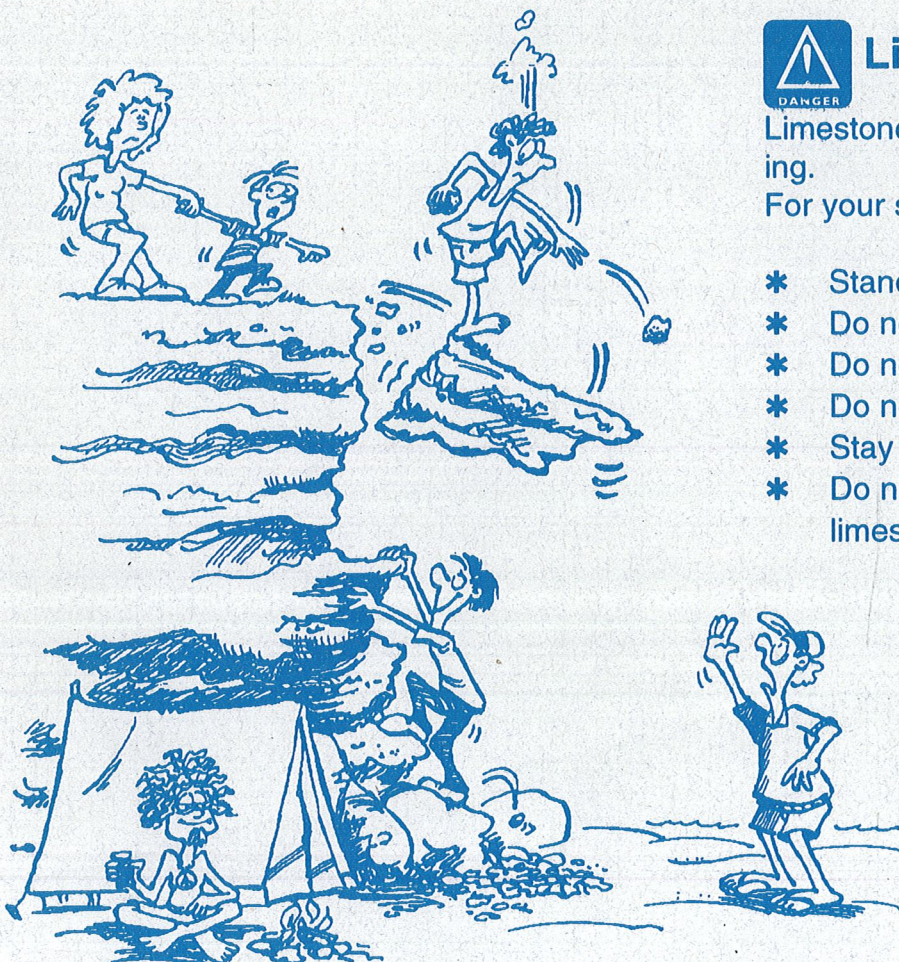
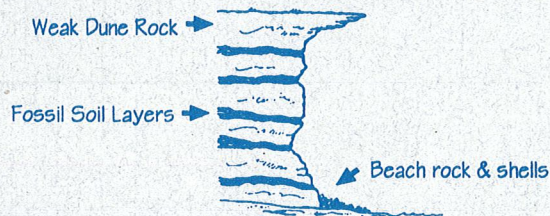
The limestone cliffs of the Leeuwin Naturaliste coast are a fragile and spectacular landform but along the coast nothing remains the same. Despite their rugged appearance, the cliffs are constantly changing through the process of weathering by wind and water. Over time sections collapse onto the beach or into the sea as the cliff face ever so gradually moves inland.

Formed over thousands of years, the limestones consist of variable layers of:

- * dune rock of *loosely cemented windblown sands*
- * marine sediments
- * remnants of *past surface soils (fossil soils)*
- * conglomerate of *beach rock and shells*

At Hamelin Bay four well developed fossil soil layers are present, along with a zone from which the fossil soil has been eroded. The dune rock between the layers is loosely held together. Years of weathering by the sea, wind and rain have resulted in development of numerous overhangs, undercutting of the cliff base, resulting in the collapse of sections of the cliff face.

Generalised geological profile
of Hamelin Bay sea cliffs



Limestone Risk Area

Limestone cliffs can collapse without warning.

For your safety:







- * Stand back from cliff edges
- * Do not stand on limestone overhangs
- * Do not throw rocks over the cliff edge
- * Do not climb on cliffs
- * Stay away from the base of cliffs
- * Do not sit, camp or light fires under a limestone overhang

Parents:

- * Explain the hazards of Hamelin Bay's limestone cliffs to your children
- * Supervise your children at all times; they must NOT be allowed to venture near any cliff areas
- * Observe warning signs

Hamelin Bay Area

Legend

	Cliffs
	Cape to Cape Track
	Fence
	Hamelin Bay Track
	Fragile Area
	Lake

Leeuwin Naturaliste
National Park

Proposed Access Road

Lake
Davies

Hamelin Bay
Caravan Park Office

Kiosk

Hamelin Bay

Limestone
Risk Area

Hamelin Bay Walk Trail (Blue Markers)

Cape to Cape Walk Track

