

Cambridge Elements

Elements of Paleontology

INTEGRATING MACROSTRAT AND ROCKD INTO UNDERGRADUATE EARTH SCIENCE TEACHING

Phoebe A. Cohen
Williams College

Rowan Lockwood
College of William and Mary

Shanan Peters
University of Wisconsin Madison



Teaching
Cambridge University Press
Phoebe A. Cohen, Rowan Lockwood, Shanan Peters
978-1-108-71785-4 – Integrating Macrostrat and Rock into Undergraduate Earth Science
Frontmatter

[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108717854

DOI: 10.1017/9781108681445

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First published 2018

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-71785-4 Paperback

ISSN 2517-780X (online)

ISSN 2517-7796 (print)

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First published online: October 2018

Phoebe A. Cohen
Williams College

Rowan Lockwood
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Abstract: New online resources are opening doors for education and outreach in the earth sciences. One of the most innovative online earth science portals is Macrostrat and its mobile client Rockd – an interface that combines geolocated geological maps with stratigraphic information, lithological data, and crowd-sourced images and descriptions of outcrops. These tools provide a unique educational opportunity for students to interact with primary geological data, create connections between local outcrops and global patterns, and make new field observations. Rockd incorporates an aspect of social media to its platform, which creates a sense of community for users. Here we outline these resources, give instructions on how to use them, and provide examples of how to integrate these resources into a variety of paleontology and earth science courses.

Keywords: geoscience education, macrostrat, rockd, mobile learning

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ISBNs: 9781108717854 (PB), 9781108681445 (OC)
ISSNs: 2517-780X (online), 2517-7796 (print)

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