



The Proterozoic Era

By

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During the Archaean a super continent called Rodinia was formed. The earth's crust was still thin. Rodinia floated on the molten magma.

There was no life on land. In the seas of the time cyanobacteria continued to grow and multiply. They even grew in big clumps. These clumps or colonies are called stromatolites. They can be found as fossils in places around the world. There are some living stromatolites but they are not as successful or plentiful as they once were.

The cyanobacteria consumed methane and produced oxygen. Over time they changed the atmosphere.

Other bacteria that lived on methane died out. The cyanobacteria was using up the methane. They might have died out themselves. But something happened that saved them.

New life forms appeared that used oxygen
and produced methane!

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And so the Paleozoic Era began.

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