

NATURAL WONDERS

GRAND CANYON



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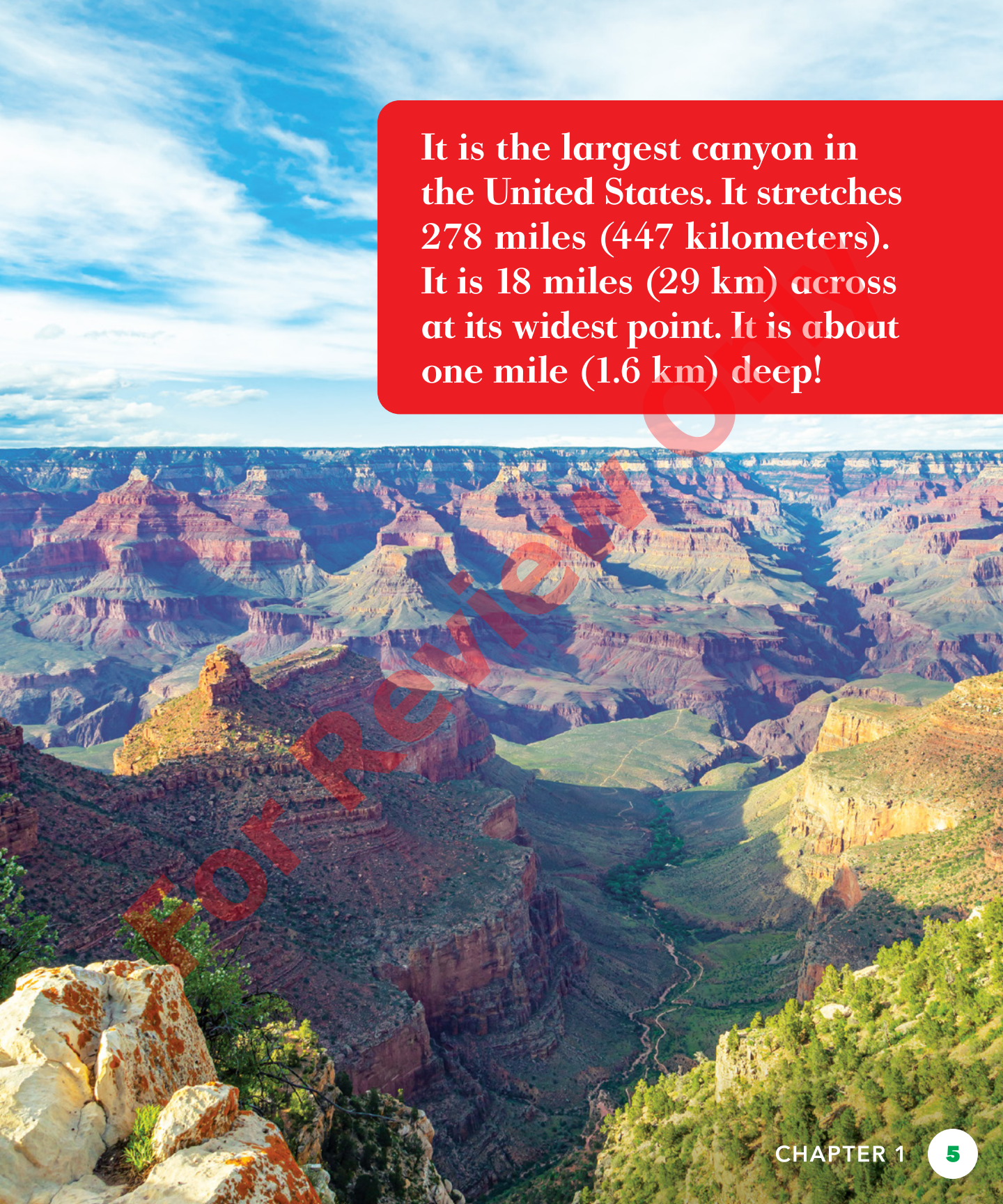


CHAPTER 1

ROCKY CANYON

The Colorado River flows through **steep**, rocky walls in Arizona. What is this place? It is the Grand **Canyon**.

Colorado River



It is the largest canyon in the United States. It stretches 278 miles (447 kilometers). It is 18 miles (29 km) across at its widest point. It is about one mile (1.6 km) deep!

bighorn sheep



rattlesnake



mule deer



California condor





This place is a **national park**.
Millions of people visit each year.
It is home to a lot of **wildlife**.
Bighorn sheep, rattlesnakes, mule
deer, and California condors all
call the canyon home.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

There are more than
400 U.S. national parks.
Have you been to one?
Would you like to?
Why or why not?



CHAPTER 2

HOW IT FORMED

The Grand Canyon took millions of years to form. The oldest rocks are at the bottom. They are as old as North America! Scientists study the rocks. Each **layer** is from a different time. It tells us what Earth was like when it formed.



layer

Over time, **sediment** like sand built up on the rocks. New sediment pushed down the old. This **pressure** hardened the sand into sandstone. More layers built up.