Works of art take time

Brilliant-colored rocks in Nevada's Valley of Fire State Park get their hue from eons of geological activity, a Texas scientist has found. Iron-rich minerals stained the bulk of the sandstone red; over time, groundwater that was enriched with more minerals swept through the rocks, adding tints of orange, yellow, purple and white. Peter Eichhubl, a geologist at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, describes the park's complex history in the current issue of the Geological Society of America Bulletin.