

Coasts & The Water Cycle



Curriculum Links:

Locational knowledge

Human and Physical Geography

Geographical skills and fieldwork

* See coverage documents for more information

Key Facts:

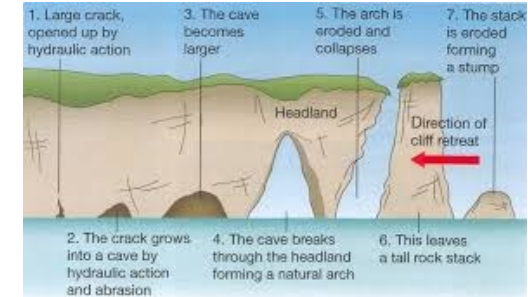
- Coasts are where the land meets the ocean—these can take different forms such as sand, shingle, pebble and cliffs
- Waves are created by the movement of the air across the sea. Tides are created by the gravitational pull of the moon
- The sea's waves lead to hydraulic action and erosion of the land. The land is made up of different rocks, some hard and some soft, leading to bays and headlands. Further erosion can lead to cracks, caves, arches, stacks and stumps
- Coastal areas often attract tourism and are popular residential areas. Coastal erosion can threaten land use therefore beach protection measures are created, such as: rock armour, groynes and seal walls
- Beaches are becoming poisonous habitats due to the volume of ocean plastic, beach litter and human activity
- The water cycle is the process which water continuously goes through
- The water cycle follows the process of: evaporation - the Sun evaporates water from the Earth and it turns into water vapour; condensation - water vapour rises and condenses into droplets of water and forms clouds; precipitation - drops of water vapour fall to the Earth in the form of rain or snow; and transpiration - water is used by plants and runs off into seas, rivers etc

Key Skills:

- Use maps and aerial photographs to compare coastlines and the erosion which has happened
- Use fieldwork to make observations eg. sketches, collect and present information
- Investigate the effects of climate change and plastic pollution

Possible experiences: We should already know:

- Kent coast visit (must be on EVOLVE in advanced & some councils need to be informed)
- Make models of different coastal formations
- Design method of preventing coastal erosion—try using sand and water
- Model the water cycle using hot water
- There are seven continents and five oceans
- Some biomes and climate zones around the world
- Key facts about the Amazon river
- Water is used to help plants grow



Key Vocabulary

Bay	An area of sea protruding into the land
Beach	A low lying area where the land meets the sea - made up of fine, loose sediment
Cliff	A high altitude area where the land meets the sea - made of hard rock
Coast	Where the land meets the sea
Condensation	Small drops of water which form water vapour
Evaporation	To turn from a liquid to a gas
Erosion	The process where material is removed from the land
Headland	An area of land protruding into the sea
Hydraulic Action	The weight of a wave crashing on to a cliff face - this can push air into cracks/ caves and force them to open
Longshore Drift	The process through which sediment is moved across a beach
Precipitation	Rain, snow, sleet formed by condensation of water vapour
Transpiration	Evaporation of water from a plant
Water Vapour	Water in the gaseous state