

Exploring the Coastline with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify and describe the physical features of a coastline, including cliffs, beaches, and erosion patterns.

Follow the drawing prompt to create a detailed coastal map. Once your sketch is complete, use the word bank to label the key geographical features you have included.

Draw: Create a detailed landscape drawing of a coastline. Include a tall, jagged cliff on one side of the page and a curved, sandy beach on the other. In the middle of the ocean, draw a headland jutting out with a natural sea arch formed in the rock. Add crashing waves using swirling blue lines. Ensure the style is clear and educational, leaving enough space to draw neat lines pointing to the features for your labels.



Label words: Cliff · Sandy beach · Sea arch · Headland · Wave-cut platform · Lighthouse · Bay

Steps:

1. Explain why a headland is more likely to be eroded by waves than a sheltered bay. Use geographical terminology in your answer.
2. Compare and contrast a sandy beach with a rocky cliff. How do the processes of erosion differ for these two features?
3. Justify why a lighthouse is typically built on a headland rather than inside a deep, sheltered bay.

4. What might happen to the shape of a sea arch over a long period of time if the erosion continues? Explain your reasoning.
5. If you were designing a coastal town, why would it be risky to build your houses right on the edge of a cliff?
6. Creative Extension: Write a short poem from Finn the Dolphin's perspective describing the sound and movement of the waves hitting the cliffs.