

Coastal Explorers: A Geography Flashcard Set

Learning objective: To understand key geographical features of the coastline and the processes that shape them.

Read the front of the card, think about the answer, and then check the back. Use these to test your knowledge of how our coastlines are formed and why they change.

What is a coastline?

A coastline is the area where the land meets the sea or ocean.

Define 'Erosion'.

Erosion is the wearing away of rocks and soil by the action of water, wind, or ice.

What is a 'Headland'?

A headland is a high, rocky point of land that juts out into the sea, often made of hard rock that resists erosion.

Explain what a 'Bay' is.

A bay is a curved area of water where the land curves inwards, often formed where softer rock has been eroded more quickly than the surrounding headlands.

How is a 'Sea Cave' formed?

A sea cave is formed when waves crash against a cliff, forcing air and water into cracks in the rock, gradually widening them until a hollow space is created.

Describe how a 'Sea Arch' is created.

A sea arch is formed when two sea caves on either side of a headland erode through until they meet and break through the rock.

What is a 'Sea Stack'?

A sea stack is a tall, isolated column of rock in the sea, left behind when the top of a sea arch collapses.

What does 'Deposition' mean in geography?

Deposition is the process where waves drop or 'deposit' sand, pebbles, and sediment onto a shore.

What is 'Longshore Drift'?

Longshore drift is the movement of sand and pebbles along the coast by waves hitting the beach at an angle.

Why do coastlines constantly change shape?

Coastlines change shape because of the constant energy of waves, wind, and tides, which are always eroding some areas and depositing material in others.