

Exploring Our Coastlines with Finn the Dolphin

Dive into Discovery: How does the ocean shape our land?

- **Erosion happens when the force of waves wears away rocks, creating steep cliffs and rocky headlands over thousands of years.**
- **Longshore drift is the way waves move sand and shingle along the beach in a zig-zag pattern, slowly shifting material from one place to another.**
- **Bays are sheltered areas of water where the coast curves inwards, usually found where softer rock has been eroded more quickly than the harder rock around it.**
- **A sea stack is a tall, isolated column of rock in the sea that was once part of the mainland, left behind after an arch collapsed.**
- **Deposition occurs when waves lose energy and drop the sand, pebbles, and mud they were carrying, helping to form beaches and spits.**

Did you know? Did you know? The UK coastline is constantly changing! Powerful waves can carve out giant sea arches from solid rock, but they also build up beautiful sandy beaches through a process called deposition, where waves drop sediment like sand and shingle.

Key vocabulary: Erosion · Deposition · Headland · Bay · Longshore drift · Arch · Stack