

Coastal Explorers: Grade 4 Geography Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand key coastal features, processes of erosion and deposition, and how coastlines change over time.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of coastal geography. Finn the dolphin suggests saying the answer out loud before flipping the card to check if you are correct!

What is the process of erosion?

Erosion is the wearing away of rock and soil by the movement of water, waves, and wind.

What is deposition?

Deposition is when the sea drops or 'deposits' sand, pebbles, and sediment onto the shore.

What is a headland?

A headland is a piece of hard rock that sticks out into the sea because it resists erosion better than the softer rock around it.

What is a bay?

A bay is a curved area of water where the land has been eroded more easily, often found between two headlands.

What is longshore drift?

This is the process where waves move sand and sediment along the coastline in a zigzag pattern.

How is a sea arch formed?

An arch is formed when waves erode through a headland, creating a hole that goes all the way through the rock.

What is a sea stack?

A sea stack is a tall pillar of rock left standing in the sea after an arch has collapsed due to erosion.

What is a cliff?

A cliff is a steep rock face along the edge of the sea, often formed by the waves undercutting the base of the land.

What are constructive waves?

These are gentle waves that deposit more material on the beach than they take away, helping to build the beach up.

What are destructive waves?

These are strong, powerful waves that have a high energy and remove more material from the beach than they deposit.

Name one way humans protect the coast from erosion.

Humans build sea defenses such as sea walls, groynes, or rock armour to stop the land from washing away.

What is the coastline?

The coastline is the specific area where the land meets the sea or ocean.