Finn’s Coastal Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and explain the physical processes of coastal erosion and the features of a UK coastline.

Join Finn the dolphin on his latest coastal survey! Use your geography knowledge to complete this fact-file. Research different coastal landforms and the processes that shape them. Write clearly and ensure you use geographical terminology to describe how the UK's coastline changes over time.

Word bank: erosion · deposition · longshore drift · headland · arch · stack · wave-cut platform · sediment · hydraulic action

1. Coastal Processes: Describe how hydraulic action and abrasion work together to erode a headland. (3 marks)

2. Landform Formation: Explain the step-by-step process of how a cave eventually turns into a sea stack. (4 marks)

3. Longshore Drift: Draw a mental map and explain how sediment moves along the coastline in the direction of the prevailing wind. (3 marks)

4. Human Impact: If a town council wanted to build a sea wall costing £150,000 to protect a beach, what might be the advantages and disadvantages? (3 marks)

5. Case Study: Name a specific coastal feature you have studied in the UK and describe its unique appearance. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a 'managed retreat' coastal management strategy. Write a short paragraph explaining why some communities choose to let the sea reclaim land rather than building expensive defences.