

What is a coastal erosion?

KEY QUESTIONS

Locating different coastal locations around the UK.	What are the two types of waves? What are the similarities/differences?	What are the 4 main types of erosion and how do they erode the coast?
What features are created as a result of erosional processes?	What is Longshore Drift? How does this process impact the coastline?	How can we protect the coastline from eroding?
What conflicts can occur at the coast and why?	What activities can be done at the coast?	What is a coast?

Unit intent: Students will learn about the process which effect the landscape and coastline of Britain. They will also learn to assess the different approaches to coastal management.

KEY WORDS

Constructive Waves	Frequently breaking, long and low waves found on gentle beaches. Swash is stronger than the backwash meaning they build up the beach.
Destructive Waves	Infrequently breaking, high waves found on steep beaches. Backwash is stronger than swash meaning they destroy the beach.
Swash	The forward movement of a wave up on to the beach.
Backwash	The backward movement of the water down a beach when a wave has broken.
Hydraulic Action	Waves hit the cliff creating a lot of pressure and eroding them away. Air is trapped in the cracks of the rock on the cliff face.
Attrition	The knocking together of pebbles in the sea, making them gradually smaller and smoother.
Abrasion	Sand and pebbles being thrown against the cliff face by the sea scrape off bits of rock on the cliff face using a 'grazing' motion.
Solution	The dissolving of rocks such as limestone and chalk.
Soft Engineering	Coastal management strategies that work with the natural coastal processes.
Hard Engineering	Coastal management strategies that are man-made structures to protect coasts against erosive waves. Often made out of hard materials e.g. concrete.

DIAGRAMS/MAPS

