St Peter's Roman Catholic Primary School

Geography Class 3 Year A – Investigating Coasts

Substantive concept: Physical and human processes / Environmental impact

Disciplinary concept: Fieldwork / Cause and consequence

Enquiry Question: How do physical and human processes cause coastal erosion, and what are the consequences for people and the environment in the UK?

What is this topic about?

In this unit, we will investigate what coasts are, how they are formed, how they are protected and why they are constantly changing. We will study the processes of erosion and deposition and how they affect the coast, find out the names of some different coastal formations and find out what disasters can happen on precarious cliff edges. We will also debate how changing a coastal area will affect the local environment.

During this unit, I will discover …

- What coasts are and how they are formed.
- What coastal erosion is and how it affects coastlines.
- Some advantages and disadvantages of using coastal management systems.
- Some human and physical features of different types of beaches.
- That changes in land use can affect people and the environment in different ways.
- Some ways in which physical and human factors might change the landscape in the future.



During this unit, I will work historically to …

- Describe key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle in the context of coastal formation, erosion, coastal features and coastal management systems.
- Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time in the context of coastal features and coastal erosion in the UK
- Make observations about places and features that change over time.
- Ask and answer more searching geographical questions when investigating different coasts and coastal erosion.
- Use a range of sources including digital maps, atlases, globes and satellite images to research and present different types of beaches.
- Express my opinions on environmental issues, such as land use, and recognise how people can affect the environment both positively and negatively.





Key Knowledge (linked to concepts). What children NEED to know.

The sea is always changing the coast through a process called **erosion**. Waves crash against cliffs, carrying pieces of rock and sand away. Over time this shapes the land, creating cliffs, bays and beaches. People can also affect the coast, for example by building houses or sea walls, which sometimes makes erosion worse in other places. This has consequences: cliffs can fall into the sea, homes and roads can be lost, and animals may lose their habitats. In the future, rising sea levels might make erosion happen faster, so people will need to think carefully about how to protect the coast.

Key Vocabulary		
coast	erosion	human and physical changes
coastline	management systems	deposition
beach	coastal formations	protected