



What can you learn about YOUR part of the beach?

Overview



Lead Subject: Geography

Introduction: Children will visit the nearest part of the shore to their school and get to know it **very** well.

Rationale: Children will survey the beach in a variety of ways linked to literacy, mathematics, PSHE, geography, history, R.E, history, science and art.

Children will learn about their part of the beach in detail through direct experiential engagement



Impact and Outcomes



Outcomes:

Children will create a large picture, poster or banner to illustrate their findings.

Impact:

- Children will have furthered their enjoyment, experience and knowledge of their part of the coastline.
- To develop observational skills, survey techniques and knowledge of coastline habitats
- Children will appreciate and value the beach (and coastlines in general) and will learn how it can be cared for
- Children will have developed an understanding of what is natural and man-made and what might spoil the beach and why beach environments are special.

Curriculum Links, Prior Learning & Key Vocabulary



Curriculum Links

See list of approaches that includes links to Maths, Literacy, History, Science, Geography, Art, R.E, PSHEE and P.E should you wish.

Prior Learning

Prior to the site visit the teacher will have talked to the children about beaches in general to recall any visits they may have already had to the beach. The teacher will show a selection of images of beaches around Morecambe Bay and identify where these can be found on a map of the bay. Children. The teacher will review common features that might be found at the beach and will ask children to recall which of these features 'we' might find on our part of the beach. The teacher will introduce children to the recording techniques that they have selected to use on the site visit so that children are familiar with these techniques and can use them effectively.

Key Vocabulary:

Beach, coastline, shore, debris, beachcombing, saltmarsh, shingle, cliff, natural and man-made, materials, rubbish, survey, investigation
See additional resource for tick off list, whilst identification of specific shells and other natural beach debris (ie mermaid's purse, sea glass, mussel shell) can be identified by the teacher on site and back in class using a beachcombing identification book, such as The Beachcomber's Companion by Jillian Dittner, Pocket Nature: Beachcombing by Sadie Small, I Spy by the Seaside or Collin's Gem 'Seashore'.

Locality-Based Experience



1. Children will visit the nearest part of the shore to their school and use a variety of approaches to investigate, identify, classify and record what can be seen (see additional resource for suggestions)
2. Children will survey the beach in a variety of ways linked to geographical and scientific investigation, mathematics and literacy.
3. Children will tick off the features that can be seen using the Beach Within Reach tick off list (see additional resource)
4. Children could be introduced to the art of Andy Goldsworthy and could create pieces of beach art (spirals, faces, sculptures etc).

Suggested Learning Opportunities



“In the Locality”



Children will:

Children should survey, investigate, connect with and enjoy the beach in a number of ways - see additional beach activity suggestions resource

Collect, sort, classify and identify beach debris

Use a hoop to scrutinise, map and label a small piece of the beach in great close-up detail – this could involve magnifying glasses

Use a cardboard tube (Pringles Tube) to collect a core sample of the sand to scrutinise in detail upon return to the class using magnifying glasses and microscopes to study sand formation.

Estimate then measure a variety of items found on the beach, including area, circumference and use of found objects to estimate and measure distances with non-regular forms of measurement

Measure the width of the beach, measure the distance from the promenade or headland to the highest tide mark (strand line), to the current water edge, to the recent high tide line. Calculate the area and perimeter of this stretch of beach.

Complete geographical field sketches with annotations

Make a sketch map of the beach with labels and a key

Use technology to take photographs, record video and sound. This could include taking a 360-degree collection of photographs to create a panoramic display back in class.

“In the Classroom”



Children will:

Upon return the classroom the teacher will lead a review of the visit to the beach including examination of what was found and the ways in which children recorded what they found on their adventure. Some activities (e.g. sand core samples) can be investigated, whilst other ways of recording on the beach might be given time to be further developed.

Children’s ideas about what they liked about the beach and what might threaten the care of and enjoyment of the beach should be discussed, alongside a review of the Beach and Countryside Code.

The teacher will create a large informal display utilising children’s work and highlighting key vocabulary and findings, to act as a learning aid for the next activity.

The children will then work in groups to create large group posters or banners illustrating what they have discovered about their section of beach – the teacher will model how this might look and what subheadings could be included and should offer title suggestions such as: ‘What we found out about (?) beach’, ‘Our (?) Beach Investigation’, Group 2’s (?) Beach Report and should include a section of tips on how to care for our beach

Further Links



- <https://www.morecambebaynature.org.uk/discover>
 <https://www.morecambebay.org.uk/be-inspired/care-for-the-bay>
 <https://www.beachstuff.uk/>
- <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/participation-lifelong-learning/traillblazer/coordinators/traillblazer-ideas>
 <https://www.morecambebay.org.uk/be-inspired/care-for-the-bay> Coastal Code
- <https://www.waysaroundthebay.org.uk/enjoy-your-visit/bay-lines-beach-of-dreams>
 <https://www.waysaroundthebay.org.uk/enjoy-your-visit/bay-lines-beach-of-dreams>
- <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/goldsworthy-andy/>
 <https://guardiansofthedeep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Teach-on-Beach.pdf>
- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1159335/Countryside_Code_A5.pdf

