The Beach within Reach: activity suggestions

- Collect, sort, classify and identify debris found on the beach
- Use a hoop to scrutinise, map and label a small piece of the beach in great close-up detail – this could involve magnifying glasses and handheld microscopes.
- 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.
- Use pencil, pastels, charcoal or water colour tins to complete a painting whilst on the beach
- Create nature-based artworks inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy
- Use expressive vocabulary to describe what can be seen, to create lists of items, to construct beach item related calligram poems, acrostic poems, 4 view poems where you write a line of poetry for each view (NSEW)
- Use a washing line, pegs and card to write on to record a transect on the beach width and length – note your findings every stride.
- Collect sounds you can make on the beach
- Get your shoes off and feel different textures
- Create an emoji map of the beach
- Build channels and look at how the water moves
- Build sandcastles
- Decide some rules for using the beach
- Stop and note the wildlife you can see
- Complete a selection of rubbings
- Note what you can see in the distance
- Make a seaside mandala
- Create a big beach face with a pebble or shell necklace
- Write your name in the sand
- Survey coastline businesses, what are they are they open or shut?]
- What will happen if the sea level rises in this location
- How is the coastline protected from the sea
- Have people changed the beach in anyway?
- Sketch the views, identify features
- Conduct a beach clean

Beach within Reach tick off list

Boats

Jetty

Railings

Promenade

Harbour

Rockpool

Sandy beach

Muddy beach

Shells

Pebbles

Rocks

Boulders

Seaweed

Pier

Groyne

Beach grass

Lighthouse

Slipway

Steps

Buoy

Debris

Natural

Man made

Rubbish