

Year 5: Geography—Coasts.

Key vocabulary

stack

Stacks are formed when sea arches collapse, leaving a single pillar of rock standing.

sea caves

Sea caves are formed when waves erode the base of a cliff. They often start as a small crack in the rock.

sea arches

Natural arches are formed when there is a difference in the rate of erosion due to the varied resistance of bedrock.

erosion landforms

Erosion landforms are created when the waves wear away the rock and when weather conditions weaken the rock and break it down.

depositional landforms

Depositional landforms are created when the sea deposits sand, rocks and other sediment onto the shore through waves and tidal action.

Sea Walls

A sea wall deflects energy away from the coast to prevent erosion damage. They are also used as a precaution against flooding.

Revetments

A revetment is a cheaper alternative to a sea wall. It is designed to absorb some of the energy from the waves but still allows water and sediment to pass through it.

Gabions

A gabion is a wire cage filled with rocks. The cages are stacked together against a cliff face or coast to help protect the area.

Groynes

Groynes are built at right angles along a beach in order to prevent sand and sediment from moving along the shore. This builds up the beach which acts as natural protection against coastal erosion.



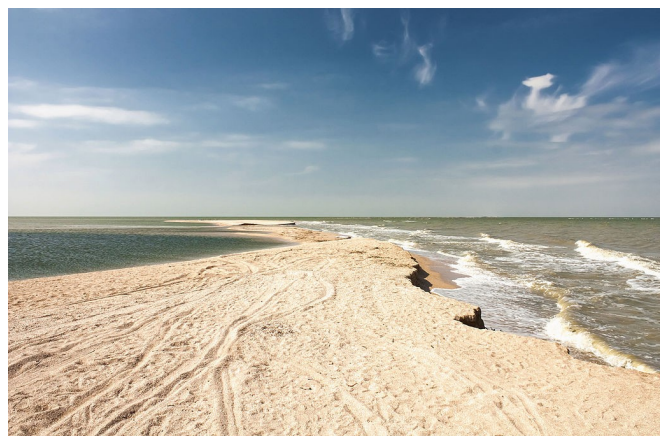
A sea stack



Depositional landforms — a beach.



Sea Caves



Sea spit

