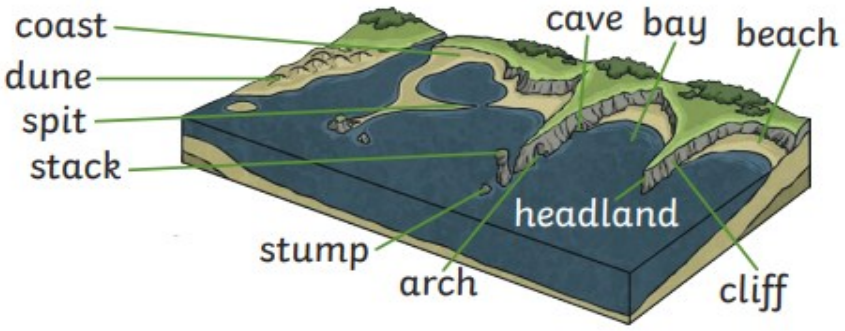
COASTS

Year 6 | Geography

Inspire Academy
Discovery Adventure Exploration

Physical Features



Human Features

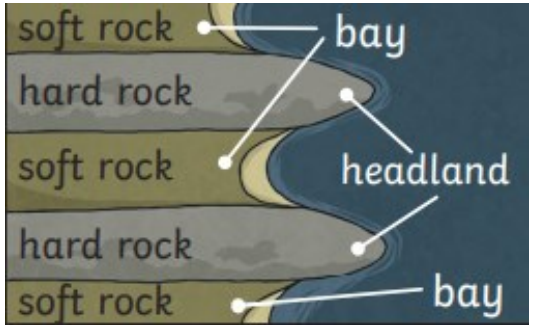
Things that are made or built by humans: shops, fairs, harbours, coastal defence, piers, towns, houses and caravans etc.

Key Vocabulary

Attrition: when rocks smash together– creating smoother, more rounded pebbles.
Abrasion: when waves pick up loose rock and throw it against the cliff face causing parts to break off.
Coast: where the land meets the sea.
Constructive wave: small, less powerful waves often seen in the summer months; these help to build up beaches.
Deposition: when material/sediment is moved and dropped off in a different place.
Destructive wave: large destructive waves, which occur during stormy conditions and often heavily erode beaches.
Erosion: when natural materials are worn away and transported to a new location.
Hydraulic action: waves force air into cracks in the cliff face: putting extra pressure on the rock; therefore causing it to break off.
Longshore drift: how waves move material: e.g. sand along the coast.
Transportation: waves carry away eroded material.
Weathering: the process of wearing away rocks by the weather: physical, chemical and biological weathering.

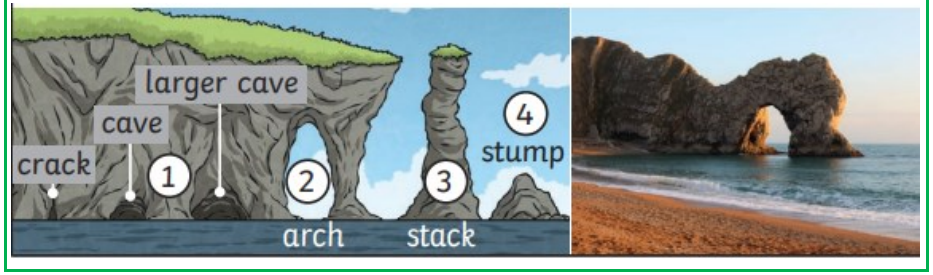
Bays and Headlands

Where there is harder and softer rock, the softer rock will erode more quickly and can form bays. The harder rock erodes more slowly and can form headlands surrounding bays.



Arches, Stacks and Stumps

Softer or weak sections of the rock are eroded more easily.
1.Over time, waves cause cracks to open forming caves.
2.If a cave forms in a headland, it may break through causing an arch to form.
3.The top of the arch can weaken and may collapse into the sea leaving a stack.
4.Over time, the stack will erode leaving a small stump of rock.



Spits

Formed by deposition.
1.The tide carries eroded material along the coast-line.
2.Deposits form a long, thin sandy area of land.
3.Changing winds may cause the spit to form a hook shape.
4.Mud flats develop on the inland side of the spit.