

## Glossary for 'Off to the Coast!' unit

**KEY TERMS:** spit, wave-cut platform, biological weathering, erosion, tide, fetch, stump, physical geography, swash, deposition, physical feature, groynes, hydraulic action, chemical weathering, attrition, stack, solution, backwash, environmental geography, arch, longshore drift, transportation, physical process, bay, abrasion, human geography, headland, cave, physical weathering

*As you learn these words, write them next to their correct definition:*

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|------------------------------|--|
| 1. <i>Physical geography</i> | = the study of natural features on Earth   |
| 2. Human geography           | = the study of how and where people live   |
| 3. Environmental geography   | = the study of how we affect our world   |
| 4. Physical process          | = something that happens in nature   |
| 5. Chemical weathering       | = the breaking down of rock by reacting with air and water                         |
| 6. Physical weathering       | = the breaking down of rock by changes in temperature                              |
| 7. Biological weathering     | = the breaking down of rock by the action of plants and animals                    |
| 8. Erosion                   | = the wearing away of rock, stones and soil by rivers, waves, the wind or glaciers |
| 9. Transportation            | = the movement of eroded material  |
| 10. Deposition               | = the dropping of eroded material  |
| 11. Physical feature         | = a natural landform   |
| 12. Hydraulic action         | = the action of water pressure to erode river banks and sea cliffs                 |
| 13. Solution                 | = erosion by the dissolving of minerals in water                                   |
| 14. Abrasion                 | = erosion by sand and rocks being flung against the rock                           |

15. Attrition = the wearing away of rocks by banging into each other
16. Longshore drift = how sand and other material is carried along a beach by the waves
17. Tides = the rise and fall in sea level
18. Fetch = the distance waves travel
19. Swash = water moving up a beach when a wave breaks
20. Backwash = water rolling down a beach following swash
21. Bay = a smooth eroded curve of coast between two headlands
22. Headland = land that juts out into the sea
23. Wave cut platform = flat rocky area formed when waves erode a cliff away
24. Cave = a large hollow eroded into a cliff
25. Arch = the curved feature left when a cave is eroded away
26. Stack = a pillar of rock left standing when an arch collapses
27. Stump = the remains of a stack eroded by the sea
28. Groynes = barriers of wood or stone on a beach to stop sand from being washed away
29. Spit = a long bank of sand or shingle deposited by the sea

Can you add three more of your own?

30. \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

31. \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

32. \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_