North York Moors National Park

Seashore discovery day (Key stage 2)



An opportunity for children to gain firsthand experience of a coastal environment. After a simple introduction to the geology of the coastline and sea defences, we focus on tides and the seashore as a habitat. Children have time to explore the rock pools and we identify and discuss the adaptations of plants and animals found here.

We then look for coastal erratics left by glaciers (alien invaders) and fossils on our way to Boggle hole. Once here we discover the legend of the Boggle and design our own in the sand. We then head back along the coastal section of the Cleveland way, using maps we learn about the countryside code and map symbols.

Age Range: Years 3 to 6 (Age 7 to 11)

Duration: Full day up to 4½ hours

Location: Robin Hood's Bay

Cost: Please note that the minimum charge at these locations is the full day rate per child. At Robin Hood's Bay other activities are available so you could consider combining this with another ¼ day session.

NB. Planning seashore activities depends on tide times. Please list your preferred dates and ring to discuss.

There are no indoor classroom facilities at this location. Public toilets are available but there is a cost.

Main Curriculum Links:

Science

- living things and their habitats, earth and space

Geography

- physical geography of the coast

Key learning objectives

Children should learn…

Science

- how the moon and sun affect tides on Earth
- to use an identification key;
- how animals are adapted to a seashore habitat

Geography

- about the physical geography of the coast

Other skills involved

- looking carefully / observation skills
- asking questions
- moving around safely on the seashore

Learning outcomes

All children will be able to:

- explain that the tide comes in and out twice every day
- match plants and animals to pictures on a key
- identify ways in which an animal is adapted to its habitat

Most children will be able to:

- explain that the sun and moon affect the tides
- use an identification key
- identify ways in which a range of animals are adapted to living on the seashore
- explain how erosion affects the coast and describe different types of sea defences

Some children will be able to:

- explain how the moon and sun cause tides
- describe how different animals are adapted to living in different parts of the seashore due to differing environmental conditions

Assessment for learning

We assess learning using a variety of techniques appropriate to the activity such as: questioning, questioning games, observing how well children are performing tasks, checking results, quizzes and feedback forms.

Ideas for extending learning before and after this activity

To find out more about the coast go to: www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/wildlife-and-habitats/coastal/

For a follow up quiz, video and activities have a look on BBC bitesize: What is a coastal habitat? - BBC Bitesize

Further information

To find out more, make a booking or view other activities please visit our Outdoor learning and school visits page.

You can contact the Outdoor Learning team on 01439 772751 or email outdoorlearning@northyorkmoors.org.uk