

## North York Moors National Park Education Service

<p><b>Risk Assessment for:</b>  <b>SEASHORE ACTIVITIES / COASTAL FIELDWORK</b>          (Page 1 of 4)</p> <p><b>Other relevant risk assessments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Generic risk assessment for field studies</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Location:</b> Robin Hood's Bay or Runswick Bay  <b>Adult to pupil ratio:</b> At least one adult to 10 pupils  <b>Max group size per Activity Leader:</b> usually 30 (larger groups depending on activity)</p> <p><b>Provider:</b> NYMNP Education Service  <b>Assessor:</b> Heather McNiff (Head of Education)</p> <p><b>Last reviewed:</b> March 2021    <b>Next review:</b> March 2022  <b>Method of review:</b> All hazards reviewed by: Annual review. Leader feedback. Accident / near miss books.</p>	<p><b>ROUTE DETAILS</b></p> <p><b>Total distance:</b> Up to 1 km      <b>Terrain:</b> Rocky shore  <b>Maximum distance from a road accessible by ordinary ambulance:</b> 1 km  <b>Weather conditions in which activity will be cancelled:</b> Heavy rain / thunderstorm / lightening / snow, sleet or hail on the ground or falling / when wind strength inhibits normal walking. Check weather forecast prior to activity.  <b>All staff leading activities</b> hold a valid, appropriate first aid qualification and are qualified in Level 1 and Level 2 (including the beach module) of the National Water Safety Management Programme.          All staff carry spare clothing, survival bag, group shelter, throwline, first aid kit and have mobile phone contact with support staff.</p> <p><b>Roles and responsibilities</b> of National Park Leaders and visiting teachers are stated in 'Pre-Visit Information' on our website at:  <a href="http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/about-us/school-and-group-visits/essential-information">http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/about-us/school-and-group-visits/essential-information</a></p>
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Risk rating scale where risk rating = likelihood x consequence			
Consequence	1 Minor Injury <small>Incident can be dealt with on site and casualty is able to continue activity</small>	2 Major Injury <small>Casualty cannot continue activity</small>	3 At least 1 fatality
Likelihood of hazard causing harm assuming precautions are taken			
<b>1 Very unlikely</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 Occasional</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3 Likely</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>

**Risk rating assuming precautions are taken:**

1 = low risk

2 to 4 = medium risk

6 to 9 = high risk (unacceptable)  
Omit activity or change to reduce risk before proceeding

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**Risk Assessment for Seashore Activities (Page 2 of 4)**

HAZARD	POTENTIAL HARM	PEOPLE AT RISK	PRECAUTIONS	RISK FACTOR	NOTES AND ACTIONS
The sea and rising tides	Getting wet; Getting cut off by rising tide; Drowning	Group members	<p>Arrange activities so that groups are only on the shore during an appropriate tide, ideally working on a falling tide. Copy of tide times provided with teaching resources and with school paperwork.</p> <p>Activity leaders are familiar with local conditions and should keep a careful watch on tidal conditions and terminate the activity and return to the village if appropriate.</p> <p>All activities to be carried out on the beach or in rock pools. Activity leaders must keep groups a safe distance from the edge of the sea at all times.</p>	(1 x 3) 3 <b>MEDIUM</b>	Tide times checked on booking and noted on school correspondence which is passed on to activity leaders.
Crowded conditions on the beach - individuals becoming separated from group or lost.	Anxiety; Other hazards	Group members	<p>NP leader to consider wearing a high visibility waistcoat and agree a meeting point in case anyone becomes separated from the group; usually with the bags.</p> <p>For rockpooling, divide pupils into smaller groups so that each group can be easily seen and supervised by an adult. Ensure all adults are aware of the group size and count children often. Where possible, instruct group to stay within boundary markers.</p> <p>Activity Leader to carry whistle, demonstrate sound of one long blast and use to gather group if necessary.</p>	(1 x 3) 3 <b>MEDIUM</b>	Action if a child is lost: Arrange for group to be escorted back to slipway by a responsible adult. Use available adults to search. If lost person is not found within 15 minutes call Emergency Services. Report to support staff at The Moors National Park Centre. If working on a weekend telephone one of the following: Head of Education 07952 053604, Education Officer 07734 865942, Head of Corporate Services 01751 432007

**Risk Assessment for Seashore Activities (Page 3 of 4)**

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>POTENTIAL HARM</b>	<b>PEOPLE AT RISK</b>	<b>PRECAUTIONS</b>	<b>RISK FACTOR</b>	<b>NOTES AND ACTIONS</b>
Cliffs	Being hit or crushed by falling debris from cliff slumps / collapses	Group members	Warn group members and teachers of danger. Keep group a safe distance away from base of cliff at all times. Advise groups not to sit at base of cliff for lunch breaks. During GCSE/A level activity it is acceptable to stand closer to base of cliff at these 2 locations only: Profile A located 100m south of quarter deck where the boulder clay cliff is lower and much less steep and Profile B – the solid vertical cliff exposure immediately north of the 1975 seawall. Pupils must keep at least 10 m away from the base of this cliff. Supervise groups at all times.	(1 x 3) 3 <b>MEDIUM</b>	
Algae / seaweed on slipway and rocks	Slipping	Group members	Warn of hazard. Appropriate footwear checked before starting. Group leaders advised in advance that pupils will require wellies or other suitable footwear. Instruct children not to run and to tread carefully in rocky areas.	(2 x 2) 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	
Lifting / turning over rocks	Trapping fingers, injuries to feet if rocks dropped.	Group members	Instruct children not to lift rocks out of water. Stipulate the size of the largest rock which children are allowed to turn over appropriate to their capability (e.g. no bigger than football size) and demonstrate how to do it without lifting rock up.	(2 x 2) 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	
Seashore plants and animals	Stings, bites, nips	Group members	Warn of dangers, instruct not to touch or poke fingers into crevices. Warn that some creatures can sting and bite. Instruct children to use a net to transfer creatures from rock pool to tray. Demonstrate correct way to hold a crab. Direct group to hand washing facilities immediately after activity.	(2 x 2) 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	
Litter / pollution/ faeces	Cuts, grazes, infection	Group members	Avoid areas where litter, pollution, faeces obvious. Instruct not to touch litter (unless doing litter picking activity – refer below). Direct group to hand washing facilities immediately after activity.	(2 x 1) 2 <b>MEDIUM</b>	

**Risk Assessment for Seashore Activities (Page 4 of 4)**

<b>HAZARD</b>	<b>POTENTIAL HARM</b>	<b>PEOPLE AT RISK</b>	<b>PRECAUTIONS</b>	<b>RISK FACTOR</b>	<b>NOTES AND ACTIONS</b>
Litter picking activity	Cuts, grazes, infection	Group members	All group members issued with work gloves and instructed to keep them on at all times. All members instructed not to pick up anything sharp or needle like. Direct to hand washing facilities immediately after the activity.	(1x1) 1 <b>LOW</b>	
Dogs	Bites	Group members	Remind group members not to approach or try to touch dogs.	(2 x 2) 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	
Natural materials for art work	Trapping fingers, infection	Group members	Avoid using litter. Stipulate largest size of stones that pupils can lift appropriate to their ability (e.g. no bigger than a tennis ball). Direct group to hand washing facilities immediately after activity.	(2 x 2) 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	
Exposure to cold, wet or sun	Hypothermia Heat stroke Heat exhaustion Sunburn	Group members	Advice on suitable footwear and clothing sent to group in advance. Appropriate activity selection according to weather conditions, capabilities of group and time available. Appropriate clothing checked before departure. Regular checking by National Park activity leaders. Spare clothing and emergency equipment carried by National Park activity leader. In cold conditions keep group moving and active and avoid standing around. Terminate activity if individuals start to get too cold or wet. In hot conditions advise wearing of sunhats / long sleeves / sunscreen. Terminate activity and advise group to sit in shade and drink water if individuals becoming too hot.	(2 x 2) 4 <b>MEDIUM</b>	