# Coastline

# United Kingdom

The United Kingdom, or UK, is a union of four countries.
These are England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
The UK is surrounded by four seas and oceans.
These are the Atlantic
Ocean, English
Channel, Irish Sea and
North Sea.



### Coastal features

There are many features of the UK coastline.

#### Physical features

Physical features are naturally formed. Humans haven't made them. Rain, wind and the sea can change physical features over time.



#### Human features

Human features are those that have been made by humans. There are many human features on the coastline such as shops, roads and piers.



#### **Erosion**

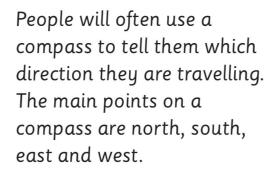
Erosion is a natural process where materials, such as rock, sand and soil, are moved from one place to another. As waves crash against the coastline, they break off, or erode, tiny pieces of rock. Over time the coastline is worn away.

Sea defences, such as sea walls and lines of large rocks, called rip-rap, are put at the bottom of cliffs to stop erosion.

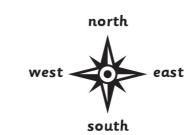


### Maps

Maps are used to help people find their way from one place to another or find out where different places are. Physical and human features are marked on a map with symbols.







#### Dangers at the coast

The coastline can be a dangerous place. It is important to stay safe and know what to do in an emergency.



Look for warning signs, follow advice and do not take risks.



Never go near water alone. Make sure an adult is with you.



Do not use inflatable toys or airbeds in the sea when a wind sock is blowing.



Red and yellow flags mean it is safe to swim.



Black and white flags mean it is safe for surfing, not for swimming.



Red flags mean danger. It is not safe to swim.



Check the weather forecast for bad weather.



Use safety equipment, such as a life jacket.



Call 999 in an emergency. Ask for the coastguard and they will call for the lifeboat.





#### **RNLI**

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution, or RNLI, is a charity that saves lives at sea. There are 238 RNLI lifeboat stations around the UK coastline. Each station has boats and special equipment that the crew use to help people in trouble in the water. Over 8000 people are helped by RNLI volunteers every year.



# Whitby

Whitby is a busy tourist town on the coast of North Yorkshire, England. It is surrounded by the beautiful countryside of the North Yorkshire Moors. The River Esk runs through Whitby, splitting the town into two parts. The old town is on the east bank of the river and is full of small shops and narrow, cobbled streets. The new town is on the west bank of the river. The new town has bigger, more modern shops and a large park and museum.



#### Captain Cook timeline

Captain James Cook
was a famous explorer
who lived almost 300
years ago. He travelled
to places that no other
European had ever
visited. He drew detailed
maps and was the first
person to sail around the
world in both directions.
He was awarded the
Copley Medal for finding



out how to keep sailors healthy at sea.

1728	Captain Cook was born in north-east
	England.

1755	He joined the Royal Navy and became a
	skilled sailor.

1768	He set off on his first voyage and
	discovered New Zealand.

1771	He	returned	to	Englo	and.
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1772	His second voyage began. He sailed close
	to Antarctica.

1775 Captain Cook returned to England.

**1776** His third voyage began. He went to Hawaii.

1779 He was killed by islanders in Hawaii after an argument about a missing boat.

#### Problems at sea

Boats and ships can sometimes have problems at sea. Rocks, waves and weather can cause boats and ships to become damaged or capsize. A badly damaged ship may be left in the sea to sink or stuck on land. These are called shipwrecks.



## Glossary

capsize	When a boat or ship turns over in the water.
charity	A group that raises money for people or animals in need.
coastline	The place where the land meets the sea or ocean.
compass	An instrument used for showing the direction.
emergency	A situation that is serious and dangerous and needs urgent help.
explorer	A person who travels to places to learn about them.
feature	Something that is part of an area of land.
volunteer	A person who works without being paid.

