

CASE STUDY 2: CLIMATE CHANGE

CASE STUDY DETAILS

Key Skill Subjects:

Geography
Geology
Environmental Science

Duration:

1 Day ✓
2 Day ✗
3 Day ✗
5 Day ✗

Locations:

Single – location

Accessibility:

Coastal Section ✓
Tidal Dependant ✓
Steps ✓
Unmade Footpath ✓
Open Moorland ✗
Steep Gradients ✓
Former Industrial Site ✗
Mine / Underground ✗
Weather Dependant ✓

Optional Extras:

There are no extra cost options at this locality.

Key To Symbols:

Yes: ✓
No: ✗
Optional: ◇



Raised Beach

This module is specifically designed to integrate a range of pure geological skills with geography in particular the climate and the environment in general.

This locality is coastal. We start off on the beach where we look at the material which makes up the beach deposits and learn the techniques of describing this in detail, using tools such as a hand lens and data cards.

Students will then look at the rock sections exposed in the cliff to the rear of the beach, look at its provenance, and compare / contrast with the material on the beach. The concepts of weathering and the rock cycle are introduced.

Students are encouraged to draw their own conclusions on where the beach material has been derived from based upon the evidence they have gathered.

The concept of sea level change is also introduced in this model. Students are shown evidence that sea levels have fluctuated previously in the form of raised beach that can be observed at this locality.



Close up of Cornish slate

It is then normal to complete this module with an exercise such as the construction of a time line to show the different environments, which the area has been in.



Adult group exploring the coastal section

This will enable participants to develop a sense of scale with regards to the environment around them. They will also be encouraged to use the evidence all around them to imagine how the same place looked thousands and even millions of years ago.