

CASE STUDY 5: GEOGRAPHICAL PROCESSES

CASE STUDY DETAILS

Key Skill Subjects:

Geography
Environmental Science

Duration:

- 1 Day ✓
- 2 Day ✓
- 3 Day ✓
- 5 Day ✗

Locations:

Multi – location

Accessibility:

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

Optional Extras:

- Chain ferry trip
- Riverbus trip
- Gold panning

Key To Symbols:

- Yes: ✓
- No: ✗
- Optional: ◇



Tidal creek

ecosystems, and will undertake tasks and make notes. We may even have enough time to stop and pan for gold.

We learn how the regional tectonics of the UK are causing the river valleys in Cornwall to become deeper over time, resulting in steeply sided valleys.

However, in contrast, on the way we stop at a local village where the Romans used to trade, and see how the river has changed in the last 2000 years. We will see wharves, which were once bustling with boats but are now virtually silted up.

Students will be challenged by the conflicting information, and will learn the importance of looking not only at a site but also the surrounding areas to give an overview picture of a particular process.

Other topics covered include the importance of flood planes, students can undertake a basic flood risk assessment at a number of locations along the river. We look at catchment areas and compare one which rises in a SSSI with one which rises in a heavily contaminated mining district.



Waterfalls and rocky rapids – why do they form?

In this module we cover a range of pure geographical skills and integrate them with geology, mining, and environmental science.

The module starts off at a Site of Special Scientific Interest in the heart of Cornwall, where we try to find the source of the subject river. We then follow the river through the Cornish countryside to the sea. En route students will gain an insight into how important rivers are to humans and to natural



Ford across a tidal creek

A visit to the estuary is then normally made, where we look at the unique ecosystems that the Cornish tidal creeks provide.