

## Dunwich Museum Education Resources - Beach Activities



After your time at the museum, you may be planning to spend some time with your class on the beach. Dunwich Beach is a fantastic site at which to continue learning about longshore drift, coastal processes, erosion and marine habitats and more. We suggest spending 1 hour - 1 hour 30 minutes on the beach with your class. Below are some suggested activities that can be adapted to best suit your needs and timings. They are public toilets by the beach carpark.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Bobbing orange	Longshore drift	Students stand in a horizontal line along the beach. Drop in an orange at one end of the line in the breaking waves close to shore. The waves will cause the orange to move down the line in a zig-zag motion, simulating how beach material is moved along the coast. Discuss how shingle is moved along the coastline and re-deposited back onto the shore, changing the shape of the Suffolk coast over time.	5-10	Orange.
Beach Detectives	Coastal Habitat and processes	A scavenger hunt in small groups to spot and carefully collect natural and manmade items typically found on Dunwich Beach. Collecting the items is optional - the museum can provide examples necessary for the subsequent sorting activity instead.	10-15	Buckets, Museum tick sheets.
Sorting Activities	Coastal Habitat and processes	Students to come back together after the scavenger hunt (or with provided examples) to share interesting finds. We will think about how each item has come to be on Dunwich beach, and how it may	10-20	Sheets/ mats to lay items on to sort, time-lines,

		have changed over time. Students asked to think about different ways we could sort, and organise the items, and then have a go at doing this in small groups.		hoops for venn diagrams. Hand sanitiser.
Erosion Investigation	Coastal Erosion	Following on from what they already know about the story of Dunwich, students are to investigate the cliffs for signs of ongoing erosion and identify sea defences. Pupils could photograph or sketch the evidence. Students are encouraged to notice signs such as how soft the sandy cliffs are, and think about what it means that the cliffs are covered over with vegetation. Prompt students to think about whether sea defences are necessary on Dunwich Beach.	15-20	Paper or cameras to sketch and record evidence.
Dunwich Descriptions	Continuity and Change	This activity could be a reflective moment while on the beach, or a prompt for a piece of creative writing or drawing once back at school. Students are guided in discussion to reflect on the setting of Dunwich Beach, helping them to imagine the beach, bay and harbour of medieval Dunwich in order to think about what has changed and what has stayed the same here. Prompt points: children to think about all of their senses - what would you be able to hear, see, smell, taste and feel in the port, in the marketplace, by the shipyard? What activities were taking place? What goods were being traded? How many people were around? What were their professions?	10-15	Guided by class teacher.
Plastic Patrol	Environment	In Dunwich we care about keeping our outdoor spaces litter-free, for all people and wildlife to enjoy. Plastic in the sea is especially hazardous for marine life. We challenge your class to spend 10 minutes helping us get rid of any plastic and other bits of rubbish on the beach.	10	Buckets Hand sanitizer