

Lesson ideas for geography teachers to share: Sand dunes and dune slacks

Go to

https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos_list/coasts/sand-dunes-dune-slack-wetlands/

The video is filmed at Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve, Skegness. Answer the following.

1. In between yellow dunes and grey dunes what do you often get?
A wetland environment, in zones we call *dune slacks*.
2. A habitat for flora and fauna is created from these fresh water 'troughs'. How does the fine muddy sediment get into the dune slacks?
By run off, by wind and by inundation during storm surges.
3. How much mud is brought up by the sea water each year at Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve?
20mm.
4. The seawater not only brings in mud but also builds up the marsh. Name a salt tolerant plant whose seeds might also be brought in with the seawater.
Purslane.

Suggested further work

Watch the Geographer Online to answer *How are sand dunes formed on a coast?*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBofnaGQQCo>

Small-scale ecosystems – sand dunes from BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/ztcch39/revision/8>

Sand dune ecosystems – succession and characteristics, an excellent summary table

http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/gcsen/PL_Coastal_Deposition_Landforms.php

Cronulla sand dunes: the 15,000-year-old landscape that greed destroyed

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/gallery/2015/dec/27/cronulla-sand-dunes-the-15000-year-old-landscape-that-greed-destroyed-in-pictures>