



Introducing Sand Dunes - Key Stage 2

Notes to accompany slide show – KS2

Overview Description

These are notes to accompany a PowerPoint presentation for Key Stage Two pupils.

The PowerPoint along with the notes introduces the wildlife, history and characteristics of sand dune systems, with emphasis on Woolacombe sand dunes and Braunton Burrows in North Devon.

Time Approx. 30 minutes

Curriculum Themes from this presentation can extend into studies of:

KS2 Science – Identify and name a variety of living things in the local and wider environment. Recognise that environments can change. Interactions and interdependencies. Investigating the local environment to raise and answer questions that help students to identify and study plants and animals in their habitat.

KS2 History – Changes in Britain and local history

KS2 Geography - Name and locate geographical regions and their identifying features; describe and understand key aspects of physical geography; use maps.



Introducing Sand Dunes - Keys Stage 2

Aims

Give students an overview of the wildlife, geography and history of sand dunes in North Devon

- Familiarise pupils with the sand dunes and where the sand dunes are.
- Prompt thinking and discussion about sand dunes and sand dune wildlife.
- Give pupils a broad overview of the characteristics and history of the sand dunes in North Devon, including ways in which the dunes are used by people.

Learning outcomes

At the end of this presentation all pupils should be able to:

- Describe the sand dunes in North Devon.
- Talk about some historical findings in the sand dunes.
- Describe a sand dune habitat and some wildlife found in it.
- Give an example of something people do in the sand dunes.

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Teachers' notes

Notes - Questions in italics are direct questions for pupils

Slide 1. Dynamic DunesCAPES Logo.

Tell your pupils that they will be learning about sand dunes.

Has anyone heard of sand dunes? Has anyone been to any sand dunes? What can you tell the rest of the class about the sand dunes you visited?

If no one has been ask your pupils what a sand dune is and what they imagine a sand dune might be like.

Slide 2. Sand Dune Landscape

Ask your pupils to look at the picture, and give them 30 seconds to talk to the person next to them about what they can see in the picture. What did you spot in the picture? e.g. plants, sand, animals, trees, sky.

Some words to describe sand dunes (each will appear on a click)
– Wetland (a wet area of land containing bogs, swamps, lakes and ditches) Ancient (it is full of history, people have been using the sand dunes for many years) Habitat (sand dunes contain lots of different habitats that are good for lots of different plants and birds) Wildlife (because sand dunes have lots of habitats, they are very rich in wildlife) .

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Slide 3. Map of UK and Sand Dunes Systems.

Help your pupils orientate themselves and your local sand dunes on the map/s.

Slide 4. Map of Braunton Burrows and Woolacombe Sand dunes.

Help pupils orientate the map. *Is the location of your school on the map? Are any of the pupils' homes on the map? Discuss what the colours indicate on the map (dark green = woodland, cream/yellow = sand).*

Slide 5. The North Devon Coast AONB.

The North Devon Coast AONB is one of a family of 'Protected Landscapes' in England.

The North Devon Biosphere is an area in North Devon that is home to lots of wonderful nature sites. It is full of water and wildlife – trees, plants and animals.

Ask your students if they know any other sites in the AONB?
E.G. Croyde, Hartland Point, Northern Burrows, Combe Martin

Slide 6. History—Lifeboat

In 1857, the first RNLI Lifeboat station appeared in Braunton and was known as Appledore No. 3 station. It housed a lifeboat called Dolphin, which worked out of the station until 1864. Dolphin was launched by horses that pulled the boat and crew in and out of the water.

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Slide 7. History—Military

Braunton Burrows and Woolacombe sand dunes played an important role in the Second World War as thousands of soldiers trained on the sand dunes at Woolacombe and Braunton Burrows. The army still train at Braunton Burrows today.

Slide 8. Cattle and Farming

Cattle can be seen grazing at both Braunton Burrows and Woolacombe sand dunes. The cows are really great at eating the dense scrub on the dunes that needs eating otherwise it can spread and cover the dunes which is bad for the other plants and animals that live there.

Farming is a key part of The AONB today and nearby Braunton Burrows are The Great Fields, one of only two surviving medieval open strip field systems in England.

Slide 9. Animals

Have a look at this picture. What animals can you see?

Some animals that live on sand dunes are what are known as 'sand dune specialists'. This means that they are fully adapted to live in sandy conditions.

Can you think of an animal that is specially adapted to live in sand dunes? E.g. Sand Lizard

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Slide 10. Insects

There are lots of different insects at Branton Burrows including butterflies and bees. These insects like living there because there are lots of flowers for them to feed on. Some bees called solitary bees even make their homes in the sand. Bumblebee Queens also make homes in the sand where they stay for the Winter.

Slide 11. Plants

Lots of different plants live on sand dunes. Even though sand dunes are full of sand, plenty of plants and flowers live there, including: Sea Holly and orchids.

Slide 12. Ponds

Yes ponds! In some sand dunes such as Branton Burrows there are ponds. Lots of animals and plants like these ponds.

Can you think of an animal that would like the ponds? E.g. snails, fish, newts, toads, frogs.

Slide 13. People

Now sand dunes are wonderful places for people to live, work and enjoy. You can go cycling, walking, pond dipping, exploring, nature hunting, discovering and more.



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14. The End

We've come to the end of the introduction to sand dunes.

Think of three words to describe sand dunes.

Name a plant that lives in the sand dunes.

Name an animal that lives in sand dunes.

Give an example of something people do in sand dunes.