SEAGRASS AND OYSTERS

COASTAL CONSERVATION

KS4+

- Geography
- Biology
- Citizenship

40 mins

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SDG 14&15

OVERVIEW

The Holderness coast is explored. Then the way in which Yorkshire Wildlife Trust are using funding from Orsted to return seagrass and oyster habitats is discussed.

Learners then create these habitats for themselves, understanding food webs and reacting to natural and man-made disasters.

OBJECTIVES

- Understand coastal habitats and the effects climate change is having on them.
- Understand biodiversity as it builds in a habitat.
- Understand how natural and man-made disasters affect the growth of habitats.

LEARNING SESSION CONTENT

This workshop begins by examining the geology of the Holderness coast from Flamborough Head to Spurn Point. The variety of beach types along this coastline are considered, including platform beaches and the spit at Spurn Point. The effect of climate change on erosion and storm surges is also discussed.

We then focus on two important native habitats, seagrass meadows and oyster reefs, and the role they play in protecting the coastline. The source of the funding and the work of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust in re-establishing these habitats is shown with careful reference to where these habitats can be located.

Finally learners create their own seagrass and oyster habitats on a map of Spurn Point, introducing their choices of native species as the habitats grow. This will increase understanding of food chains as food webs within the habitat become apparent, identifying relationships within the ecosystem. Contending with both natural and man-made disasters, learners aim to develop their habitat, scoring points for biodiversity.