

SEAGRASS & OYSTERS COASTAL CONSERVATION

Experience some of the challenges faced by local conservationists in attempting to establish important coastal habitats. How does climate change affect us here in the UK and what can be done to mitigate the damage? This workshop asks learners to play the role of conservationist in the effort to protect the East Yorkshire coastline.



KS3



Biology, geography,
citizenship



40 Minutes

OVERVIEW & CURRICULUM LINKS

This workshop studies the differing habitats down our East Coast, from Flamborough Head to Spurn Point. It then looks at the conservation work being done by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to establish Seagrass meadows and Oyster reefs. Finally learners take part in a habitat building exercise, scoring points for biodiversity.

OBJECTIVES

For the learners to:

- Understand the need for coastal habitats and the effect climate change is having
- Investigate and understand biodiversity using a habitat building game as a coastal conservationist

LEARNING SESSION CONTENT

This workshop begins by looking at differing coastal environments from the platform beaches of Flamborough.

Head to the mud flats of Spurn Point, with discussion about the effect of climate change on erosion and storm surges.

Two native habitats, Seagrass meadows and Oyster reefs, are discussed.

Learners examine the work that the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust are doing to re-establish these habitats, with careful reference to where they can be placed.

Finally learners create their own Seagrass and Oyster habitats on a map of Spurn Point, introducing their own choices of native species. This will increase understanding of food chains and biodiversity as the habitats increase in size. The food webs within the habitat will become apparent while the learners contend with the effects of both natural and manmade disasters.

Can our budding conservationists manage to build and maintain a successfully biodiverse marine environment in the face of adversity?