

Activity Title:

The past – how have people affected beaches?

Focusing questions

How have people affected New Zealand beaches over time?

What were some of our past responses to beach erosion and how do these differ to the current Coast Care response to erosion?

Resources required

- PowerPoint presentation – 5a The past – how people have affected New Zealand beaches

Prior learning

- 2j Species lost from the beach
- 3a Changing New Zealand beach use
- 4a Importance of sand dunes
- 4d Role of plants in dunes

Method

- 1 The objective of this activity is to explore how people have affected New Zealand beaches over time. Part of this investigation includes looking at past responses to erosion and how these differ to the Coast Care response to erosion used today.
- 2 View the PowerPoint presentation **5a The past – how people have affected New Zealand beaches** before using it with the class. Identify good places to stop for discussion. Have some questions already identified. For example: What is a natural dune? Are there still pristine and untouched examples of dunes in New Zealand? List the causes of beach modification? Name three different responses to erosion that resulted from beach modification? How is the Coast Care response to erosion different to past responses used at the Mount, Waihi and Raumati?
- 3 View the PowerPoint presentation stopping for discussion and questions as appropriate.
- 4 Reflection:
 - Ko ngā takutai moana, ko ngā taipū, ko tātau, raranga tahi kau ana – The coastal strip, the dunes and us, woven inextricably together – how is this so?

Possible next steps

- 5b How do people affect beaches – DVD and worksheet activity reinforcing learning from this activity and moving forward to look at how people currently affect beaches.
- 5i Impacting interconnectedness – a game exploring what interconnections exist between biotic and abiotic factors of the dune environment and how these interconnections can be affected and altered by human and natural induced changes.

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Environmental Education Aspect:

About the environment

Environmental Education Concept:

- Personal and social responsibility for action
- Sustainability
- Interdependence

Curriculum Links:

- Social Science

Suggested Curriculum Level:

Any