

PARENT NOTES

Geography

Human Geography: Port Growth & Development



At A Glance:

- ✓ Geography
- ✓ Key Stage 3
- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Promotes understanding of key processes in geography (economic activity)

About this activity

Before their visit to the Isle of Wight, students will investigate the growth and development of the settlement and port of Southampton, using a variety of historical and present-day maps. Then, during the crossing aboard their Red Funnel ferry, students will get the opportunity to experience first-hand what the area is like today. Southampton Water is a multi-functional maritime area, with local, regional, national and international importance. Students will be able to observe the movements of vessels on the water, as well

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Students will learn about the human characteristics of a specific coastal environment and consider why and how it developed, relating their ideas to the physical geography of the area. They will conduct fieldwork on the ferry to make observations about human activities they can see taking place, and practise applying geographical terminology correctly to record their observations.



here. This will then help them with the following activities, which develop their understanding of the wider importance of the Port of Southampton at different scales: locally, regionally nationally and internationally.

Questions & Answers

What is the task?

- ▶ This is a geography task which enables students to make first-hand observations of the human geography of a specific coastal area.
- ▶ Students will learn about the physical and human factors which led to the growth and development of the settlement and port of Southampton.
- ▶ The activities on the worksheet guide students through observing human activities and categorising these correctly using geographical terminology.
- ▶ The post-visit activity will enable students to see that Southampton Port is an international trade hub, and gain an appreciation of its economic importance.

How does this link to my child's learning?

The National Curriculum for KS3 Geography outlines that students should be taught the following:

- ▶ human geography relating to economic activity and the use of natural resources; how human and physical processes interact, i.e. how the development of the settlement/port at Southampton was influenced by physical factors; to interpret a range of sources of geographical information, e.g. maps of different themes/types and (Geographical Information Systems) GIS.

The activities in this resource enable students to cover all of these aspects.

“A lot of people don't understand how cargo coming into our ports matters...”

- Janice Hahn

10720

What will they learn?

- ▶ Through the pre-visit activity students will learn to appreciate that the physical geography of an area influences the development and growth of human settlements.
- ▶ Students will learn to observe human features in a 'real' fieldwork situation, and to apply their observations to geographical theories.
- ▶ Students will learn, and practise using, a wide range of geographical terms related to the study of human geography.

How does this enrich study undertaken in school?

- ▶ Nothing beats first-hand experience of what is learnt in school.
- ▶ Good fieldwork literally brings to life the learning that takes place in the classroom.
- ▶ Rather than simply learning about settlements and economic activity in the classroom, which can be a rather 'dry' topic, students will get to witness economic activities taking place all around them whilst they are on the ferry. This will greatly enhance their understanding of the topic.
- ▶ Also, good fieldwork is fun! Students have the opportunity to fully engage with the subject and immerse themselves in it, something which will hopefully enthuse them and instill in them a curiosity about the world around them.

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Students may well have studied economic activity and would help them to revise the meaning of the terms primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary economic activity. This is not essential, but a good understanding of these terms would help with the activities on board Red Funnel.

What skills do they need to demonstrate?

- ✓ Map interpretation – the ability to use a range of different maps to interpret/gather information about a place.
- ✓ Observational skills and the ability to record observations clearly and accurately.
- ✓ Literacy skills – the ability to record their observations coherently, and to incorporate geographical terminology into their writing.
- ✓ Working with others – collaborating and cooperating with other students to complete activities and support each other's understanding.

Helpful Resources

Encourage your child to research Red Funnel ferries, The Solent and Southampton Water **before** their visit

This activity was compiled by **Education Destination** in conjunction with **Red Funnel**. We help students of all ages and abilities to experience excellent curriculum based learning opportunities at many Island venues and attractions.



edudest.info

Red Funnel brings learning alive the moment you step aboard the vessel. Your passenger or vehicle ferry ride will be an amazing learning opportunity in subjects such as Science, Geography, Mathematics, PSHE & English - for all ages and interests!



redfunnel.co.uk

For further reading about Red Funnel ferries, Southampton Water, The Solent or the Isle of Wight, **wikipedia** offers an excellent range of articles.

This would serve as an ideal introduction for learners prior to their visit, and is suitable for ages 7 upwards.



wikipedia.org

