Coastal Zone Variation in Nova Scotia – Oceans 11

In groups of 2 – 3 you will be researching the physical, biological and coastal issues associated with one f the provinces Coastal Zones. You will be assigned one of the following areas:

• The Northumberland Shore - New Brunswick border to St. George’s Bay

• Cheticamp Beach area of Cape Breton Island

• Meat Cove, Cape Breton Island

• Eastern shore from the Strait of Canso to Halifax

• South shore from Halifax to Shelburne

• Shelburne to Yarmouth

• Fundy shore from Yarmouth to Digby

• Digby to Cape Split

• Minas Basin

• Kingsburg Beach

• Risser’s Beach

• Medford Beach

• Lawrencetown Beach

• Clam Beach

• Arisaig Beach

**Physical Factors:** Research information on the physical structure of your designated coastal zone area. The information you gather should include all three **coastal zone subsystems (terrestrial, coast, marine)**. Use the notes you have gathered on the types of coastal zones, some key words to watch for in your research would be:

• rocky shore

• sandy beach

• estuary

• salt marsh

**Biological Factors:** Determine the key biological features of your area (what types of organisms live there?)

**Coastal Zone Issues:** Of the 6 priority issues in Nova Scotia, which ones affect your area the most? Explain using examples.

**Task:**

Produce a fact sheet that summarizes your findings in the form of written text and illustrative material.

Record your fact sheet on a piece of chart paper. These will be posted around the classroom so that we may compare coastal areas in Nova Scotia as a class.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What are some similarities found within the coastal areas of Nova Scotia?
2. What are some differences found within the coastal areas of Nova Scotia?
3. Are the different coastline areas used for the same purpose? If not how does this affect the physical features of the coast?
4. Describe the main factors that impact the physical features of coastal areas.
5. What are some natural ways Nova Scotian’s use to protect the coast from Erosion?
6. What are some of the consequences the coast faces when humans use it?
7. How does climate change affect how we use the coast?
8. What type of strain will municipalities have if they do not consider climate change and rising sea levels?
9. What are the four ways Nova Scotian’s must adapt to changing coast lines? Explain each briefly.