

A virtual field trip to evaluate coastal protection methods in the Bahamas

- You will consider the advantages and disadvantages of the different coastal protection strategies used in the Bahamas.
- You will complete a scorecard to rate each method of coastal protection.

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The Bahamas: issues

- 700 different islands and Cays
- Very low lying – highest point 63 metres above sea level
- Hurricane risk area
- Tourism makes up more than 50% of GDP

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Seawall

The seawall at Williams Town, Grand Bahama looking east.

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The seawall at Williams Town, Grand Bahama looking west.

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Groynes

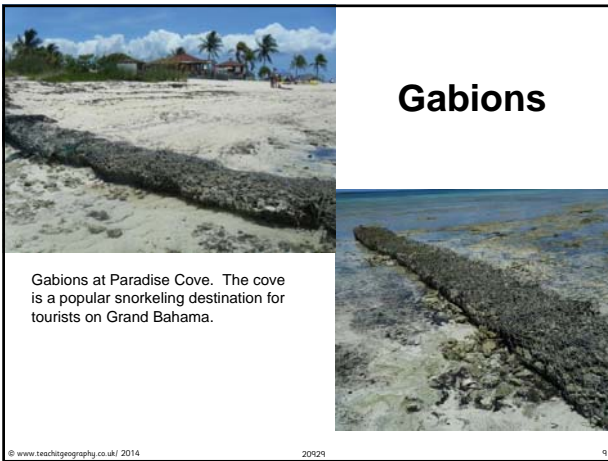
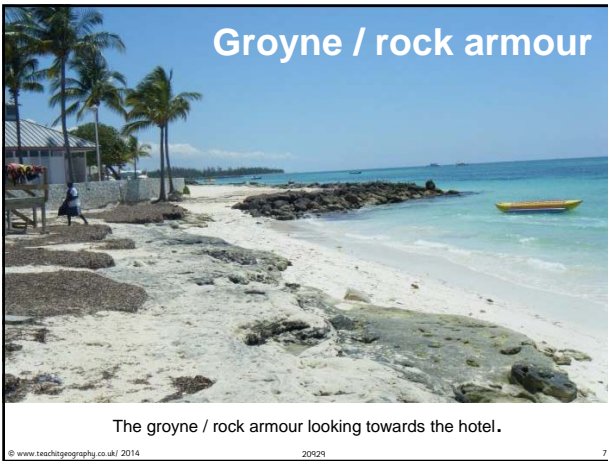
The groynes on Treasure Cay, Abaco

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Groyne / rock armour

Groyne / rock armour at Grand Lucayan Hotel, Grand Bahama

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Student tasks

- Are there any features of the coastal protection which you think are more important than others? You could **weight** these so they have a greater influence on the final total.
- Add up your scores
- Which is the most successful type of coast protection? Justify your opinion.

Image credits

Google map images

- <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=grand+lucayan&hl=en&ll=26.509501,-78.641676&spn=0.002443,0.005284&ill=25.085269,-77.358373&ssp=0.004946,0.010568&t=h&hq=grand+lucayan&radius=15000&z=18>
- <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=paradise+island&hl=en&ll=25.085269,-77.358373&spn=0.004946,0.010568&ill=25.079526,-77.339995&ssp=0.00997,0.029311&t=h&hnear=Paradise+Island&z=17>
- <https://maps.google.com/maps?q=bahamas&hl=en&ll=24.647017,-77.55249&spn=5.081055,10.821533&t=h&hnear=The+Bahamas&z=7>

Bahamas beach

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Nassau breakwater

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