

Sand Dunes

Approach: Independent

Level: Year 4

Focus: Explain erosion of sand dunes, ways to reduce erosion and reasons for conservation of dunes.

Resources: Picture of sand dunes.

<i>Questions/instructions:</i>	<i>% responses</i>
The sand dune in the photo is getting smaller. It is being worn away. Soon there might be no sand dune.	y4
1. What is eroding the sand away? Why is the sand dune getting smaller?	
Wave action: identified and explained	9
identified only	43
Wind action: identified and explained	3
identified only	22
People removing sand	10

<i>Questions/instructions:</i>	<i>% responses</i>
2. What can be done to help protect the sand dune so that it doesn't keep on getting smaller	y4
Identifies use of a barrier: with explanation	4
without explanation	45
Identifies ways of holding together: (eg planting) with explanation	0
without explanation	8
3. Why is it important to look after our sand dunes?	
plant or animal ecology	12
protection of land behind dunes	9
recreational value	25
visual landscape	6
other good reason (eg. heritage)	22

Commentary:

More than half of the students identified at least one erosion process, but few could explain the processes clearly. About half suggested barriers to reduce erosion with only eight percent suggesting planting.