



Giants Causeway

What is the story?

Name:



Class:

1. The Legend



What is the true legend?

In Ireland, lived a gentle giant called Finn MacCool.....
... But across the sea in Scotland there was a rival giant called Benandonner.....

Task:

1. What is the legend of Fin MacCool?
2. Write your own legend about how the Giant Causeway was formed
3. Try to illustrate (use pictures) your story

2. Rocks, Volcanoes and explosions

What is this about volcanoes and lava?

Sixty million years ago Antrim had many volcanoes. One of the biggest was Slemish Mountain. Lava was being forced up and pouring over the whole of Antrim. Imagine what that would be like?

When the lava reached the sea it cooled very very quickly. This made the lava shrink or contract. This created the weird shapes that we now call the Giants Causeway.



Tasks:

1. What are the different rock types that we have found at the Giants Causeway? What are the rocks like? (Draw, explain, describe)

Rock Type 1	Rock Type 2	What types of weathering have you seen?

Task:

2. Draw a field sketch of the Giants Causeway from above. Try to include the following labels:
(Rock types / colour of the rocks / the organ pipes / the stack / cliff / basalt / sandstone / sea erosion / weathering / footpath erosion)

Tasks:

3. What do the causeway rocks look like? Draw and label them below

(Sizes / rock type / are they being eroded? / colour / is there any plant life on them? / how might people or the sea be eroding them? / is there evidence humans have damaged them?)

4. Measure ten Giants' Causeways stones. What is the average size?

Stone Size	Stone Size
1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	6.
7.	8.
9.	10.

Tasks:

5. Try to explain how the Giants Causeway was formed millions of years ago.
6. Try to describe what you think it must have been like when Slemish was erupting and throwing out volcanic bombs, lava and pyroclastic flows.

3. Tourism

Why do people bother come to see the Giants Causeway?



400,000 people visit the Giants Causeway every year. This makes the Giant's Causeway the most popular natural tourism site in the whole of Ireland. Cruise liners that come to Belfast always organise trips to the causeway.

Why do people bother? What makes it good? Is it worth visiting? Why?

Tasks:

1. Below is a list of what tourists can do and need to know before visiting the Giants Causeway. For each of the things give it a score out of 5.

VISITORS CENTRE	(1= Good 5= Bad)	Reasons for score
Car parking		
Cost		
Buildings looks		
Film quality and interest		
Presentation room		
Food and café quality / cost		
Shop quality and cost		
Toilets size and quality		
Sitting and play areas for young children		

GIANTS CAUSEWAY	(1= Good 5= Bad)	Reasons for score
Transport to the causeway		
Path quality		
Safety		
Litter facilities		
Information about the site		
Access for young and old		
Is it interesting for people?		

2. If you had to encourage people to the Giants Causeway. What would you tell them? How would you get them to visit?

Write a paragraph explaining why people should come to the causeway

3. If you were in charge of the causeway, what would you do to it to attract more visitors and make it a better experience for people? (you could even draw some diagrams to show what you would do)



4. Environment

Should we bother protect this environment?

If we don't protect our environment we may lose natural sites like the Giants Causeway. Did you know that Portrush still pumps out raw sewage into the sea!!! While they are building a new sewage system to stop this it , it still takes place today.

Task

1. How do people damage the environment around the Giants Causeway? List how people may pollute and damage the two areas below.
2. Which do you think is worse and why?

Sea Pollution

Environmental pollution

3. What could be done to try to reduce the environment being damaged? Explain how you would try to protect each of the areas below.

The Sea

The environment around the Causeway

http://www.foe.co.uk/northern_ireland/
<http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/>