



Comprehension - Protecting our Blue Flag Beaches

Pre-watching activity

Break the class into groups of six and assign each student in each group a number from 1 to 6. Give each student a question and answer sheet.

During watching activity

Students should watch the clip and answer the questions in each round that correspond to their number (e.g student number 1 answers first question in each round, student number 2 answers the second question in each round). Alternatively have a table quiz where teams can answer questions together.

Post-watching activity

- List the local beaches that students visit or if your school is not near the coast, Irish beaches that students have visited on holiday.
- Look at www.bathingwater.ie/epa/background.htm for information on bathing water quality at these beaches.





Comprehension - Protecting our Blue Flag Beaches

Round 1

1. Why is Ireland's coastline important?
2. What advantages do we have over Europe in relation to our coastline?
3. How have we neglected our water quality?
4. How many Blue Flag beaches does Ireland have?
5. How many bathing spots in Dublin lost their Blue Flag?
6. Why did the beaches lose their Blue Flags?

Round 2

1. List some of the criteria for a Blue Flag beach





2. Why does Fingal County Council struggle to maintain bathing water standards?
3. What pressures are being put on the water quality in Balbriggan?
4. Describe the damage caused by the flood
5. What beaches lost their Blue Flags?
6. What are the risks of sewage being pumped into seawater?

Round 3

1. What is a good indicator of sewage pollution?
2. How many bathing sites are there in the Fingal area?
3. How often is the water tested?





4. How long does it take to get the test results?
5. What are the new standards as set down by the EU Directive?
6. What affects inland water quality?

Round 4

1. What are the measures being undertaken to reduce contamination?
2. Why is Blue Flag status important to towns?
3. What is being done to protect beaches that do not have amenity infrastructure?
4. What agencies/bodies are involved in this award?
5. Describe the award
6. What is Coastcare?

