

**COPPER COAST GEOPARK  
EDUCATION AND FIELD WORK  
OPPORTUNITIES  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**Copper Coast  
Geopark**

**ABOUT THE COPPER COAST GLOBAL  
GEOPARK**

The Copper Coast Geopark is a UNESCO Global Geopark consisting of a total area of 90 km<sup>2</sup> along the coastline of Co. Waterford. With an equivalent status to a world heritage site, the Copper Coast Geopark is recognised for its internationally important geology, stunning coastline and fascinating social and cultural history. The Copper Coast Geopark Visitor Centre was created in 2013 when the previously derelict church in Monksland Bunmahon was completely restored into a unique attraction. As well as the visitor centre, there are many other excellent locations within the Geopark area that are ideal outdoor classrooms. Contact the Copper Coast Visitor Centre for more information.

**Facilities Available**

The Copper Coast Geopark Visitor Centre is the meeting point for all programmes. The Visitor Centre is located within the picturesque village of Bunmahon which is a central point on the Copper Coast and has a link to convenient car and coach parking, a classroom area with seating for up to 40 people, an exhibition area, toilets, craft shop, free wifi and an excellent cafe.

**Health & Safety**

Health and Safety is of primary importance. All of our education and fieldwork programmes are risk assessed regularly and led by suitably experienced staff.

**Teaching Resources**

All available programmes can be fully adapted to meet the needs of the school/students and in certain circumstances programmes can be run in conjunction with each other. Students will receive a workbook to accompany their fieldwork and teachers can avail of additional teaching resources if required.

**CONTACT US**

**To find out more about our educational programmes and fieldwork opportunities please contact us at:**

**CopperCoast Geopark Visitor Centre  
Bunmahon  
Co. Waterford**

**Telephone: 051 292828**

**Email: [info@coppercoastgeopark.com](mailto:info@coppercoastgeopark.com)  
[www.coppercoastgeopark.com](http://www.coppercoastgeopark.com)**

**We are only:**

20 minutes from Waterford City and Dungarvan  
1.5 hours from Cork  
2 hours from Dublin

**Outreach Opportunities:**

Geopark staff members also carry out visits to schools (where possible) and organise special educational events at various times throughout the year. The Copper Coast Global Geopark hosts interactive earth science based work shops through the year in conjunction with events such as Science Week and Heritage Week with activities such as making your own volcano and earthquake simulation.



### 1. Volcanic and Desert landscape Investigation

Topics covered in Volcanic and Desert Landscape investigation include:

- How volcanic rock and sedimentary rock is formed
- What minerals are
- How minerals, colours and features in the rocks provide clues to our past.
- That our landscapes have undergone significant change
- What ore is
- How we get metal from rocks
- The concept of physical weathering and erosion

### 2. Seashore Habit Studies

Topics covered in the seashore habitat studies programme include:

- Learn about the different habitats and the species that live in them
- Discover what fish, animals and other creatures are found along the copper coast.
- Learn about the dynamic nature of the beach environment.
- Do quadrant surveys of the seashore environment to determine the population of different habitats.
- Learn about food chains and webs, aquatic and nearshore eco-systems

### 3. Mining Heritage

Topics covered in the mining heritage studies programme include:

- How and why did 5000 people once live and work along the Copper Coast
- How has the human environment changed over time
- Where did people live
- What was life like for the children that worked in the mines here
- What kind of problems did miners in the 19th Century Waterford face
- What happened to the Copper that was mined here
- Guided tour of Tankardstown engine house



All programmes have strong linkages to the learning area Social Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) in the subject areas of Geography and Science.

Infant, 1st & 2nd Classes:

- Living Things: Plants & Animals
- Environmental awareness and care: Caring for my locality
- Human environments: Living in the local community, people and places in other areas
- Natural environments: The local natural Environment
- Environmental awareness and care: Caring for my locality

**For more information and to book please contact:**

**[robbie@coppercoastgeopark.com](mailto:robbie@coppercoastgeopark.com)**

**Or 051 292828**