

Vocabulary	Meaning
archipelago	an extensive group of islands
precipitation	a form of water that falls from the atmosphere
continental shelf	the edge of the continent that is covered by ocean water. Most continental shelves gradually slope into the water
tectonic plate	large pieces of the earth's crust that fit together like a jigsaw
friction	the resistance of motion when an object rubs against another
abandon	to leave and never return to
evacuate	to leave a place of danger
archipelago	an extensive group of islands
economy	the system of how many is made and used within a particular country or region
poverty	not having enough money for basic needs such as food, water, shelter or toilets
tourism	the business of encouraging and supporting tourists
plate boundary	where two tectonic plates meet
biodiversity	the variety of living things in a given place
organism	any living thing such as a plant, animal or a single-celled life form
tropical cyclone	the scientific name for a hurricane
natural disaster	a natural event that causes great damage or loss of life
vortex	a whirling mass of fluid or air, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind

Key knowledge – Where do islands come from?

Continental islands – close to large landmasses and were formed by rising seas.
Example - Greenland

Volcanic islands – formed by volcanic activity on the seabed. Near tectonic boundaries. Example - Hawaii

Coral islands – formed by coral. As the coral builds up, their skeletons make reef limestone.
Example – Bahamas

Artificial islands – constructed by humans with materials brought from somewhere else.
Example – The Palm in Dubai

Tidal islands – connected to the mainland at low tide but cut off at high tide.
Example – Lindisfarne in Northern England

Barrier islands – long, narrow, offshore deposits of sand/sediment that run parallel to the coastline.
Example – Long Island, New York

Key knowledge – What are coral reefs?

Coral reefs are large underwater structures, composed of the skeletons of colonial marine invertebrates called coral



The red dots show where coral reefs can be found

Key knowledge – What is a hurricane?

A hurricane is a huge, rapidly rotating storm which is a type of natural disaster. When winds reach 74 miles per hour (mph), a hurricane is born. Hurricanes form close to the equator. They rotate around the centre of the storm or 'eye': this is the calmest part.

