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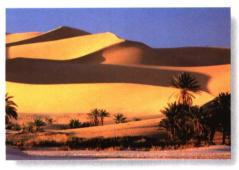
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The Land Around Us 我们的地球

Mary Tull (美) 著 张红春 冯东晔 注









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What Is a Coast? 什么是海岸?

he land at the edge¹ of the sea is a coast. Coasts can look very different. Some have flat, smooth² beaches. Others have sand dunes³. These form when the wind blows sand into big piles⁴. Some coasts have no beaches at all, just rocky cliffs⁵.

Some coasts are straight. Others have jagged⁶ outlines⁷. There the sea often extends⁸ into the land as a bay⁹.

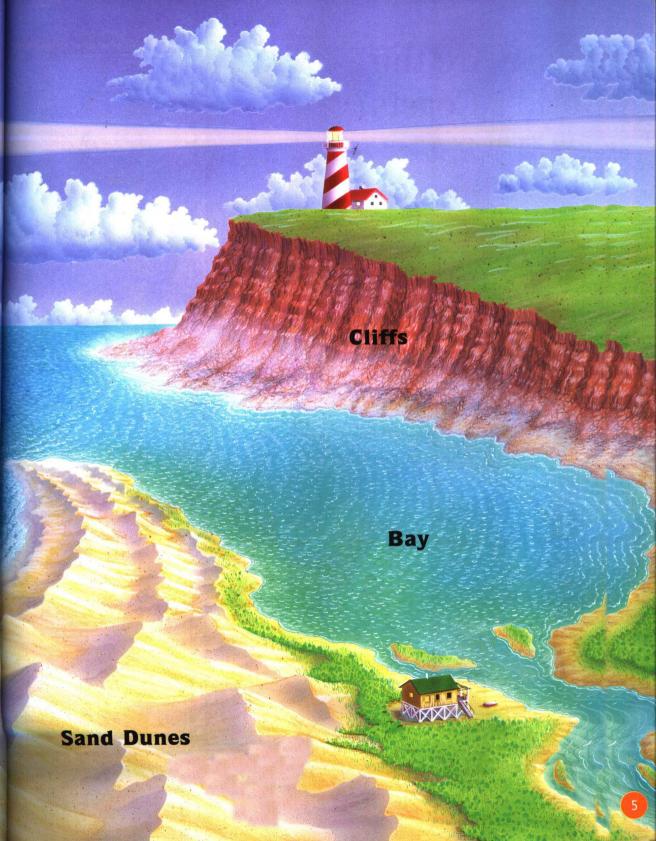
Coasts are places where many people work. People fish, build ships, and load¹⁰ and unload goods. Of course, coasts are also places where people have fun!

| 1. edge | n. | 边;边缘 |
|--------------|------|------|
| 2. smooth | adj. | 平坦的 |
| 3. sand dune | | 沙丘 |
| 4. pile | n. | 一堆 |
| 5 cliff | n | 長岸 |

| 6. jagged | adj. | 锯齿状的 |
|------------|------|------|
| 7. outline | n. | 轮廓 |
| 8. extend | v. | 延伸 |
| 9. bay | n. | 湾;海湾 |
| 10. load | v. | 装(货) |

Sea





Where Are the World's Coasts? 世界海岸分布

herever land and sea meet, there is a coast. So, all the world's land masses¹, from the largest to the smallest, are bordered² by coasts. There are different types of coastlines. Some are long and straight. Others are jagged. Warm coasts might be lined with palm³ trees. Cold coasts are covered in ice and snow.

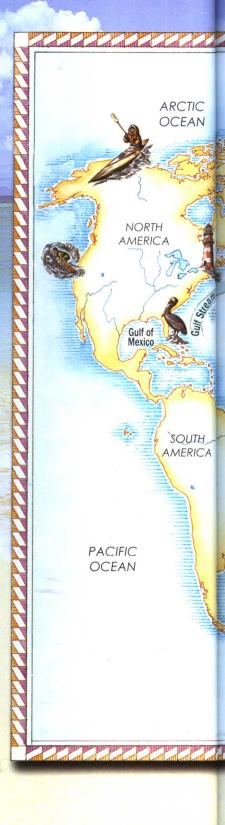
This map of the world shows most of its coasts. How far do you live from a coast?

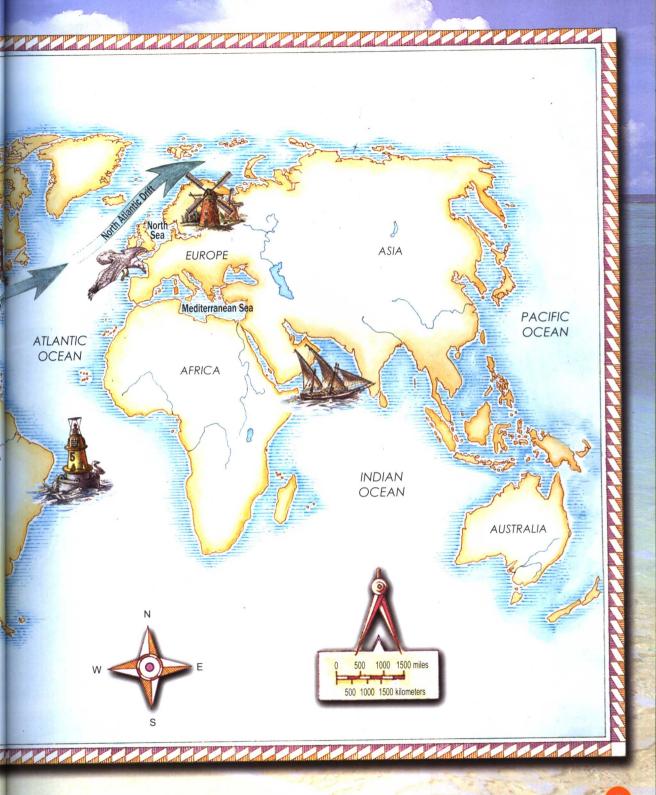
| 1. land mass | | 大陆 (板块) | |
|--------------|----|---------|---|
| 2. border | v. | 围 | 1 |
| 3. palm | n. | 棕榈树 | ł |

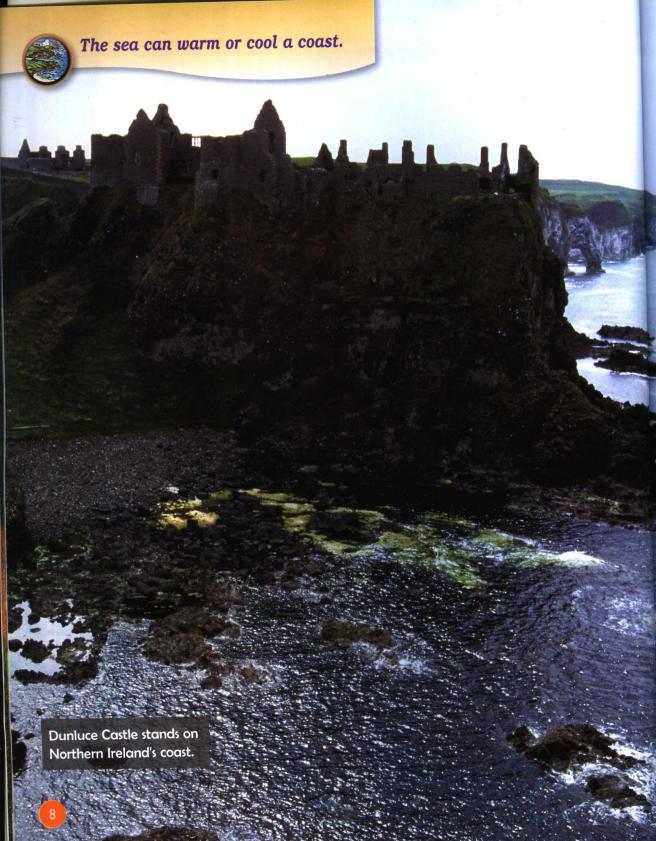












The Sea Affects Coastal Climates

海洋影响海岸气候

limate is the usual weather in an area—how hot or cold, how wet or dry it is most of the time. The sea can have an effect¹ on the climate of a coast.

Ireland² is a country in the North Atlantic Ocean³. The weather over most of Ireland is usually cool and rainy. But on Ireland's south coast, the weather is very mild⁴. The warm climate of Ireland's south coast is caused by the North Atlantic Drift⁵. The North Atlantic Drift is a warm ocean current⁶ that flows⁷ through the colder waters of the North Atlantic.

This ocean current flows near Ireland.

The sea winds off the Irish⁸ coast almost always blow in the same westerly direction. When these winds pass over the North Atlantic Drift waters, they grow warm. These warm breezes⁹ give Ireland's south coast a warmer climate than it would have otherwise¹⁰.

| The sea | winds o | off |
|------------|---------|-------|
| in the san | me we | ster |
| pass over | the N | lort |
| warm. Th | nese w | arn |
| warmer o | climate | e tha |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| 1. effect | n. | |
| 2. Ireland | | |

3. North Atlantic Ocean

5. North Atlantic Drift 北大西洋洋流

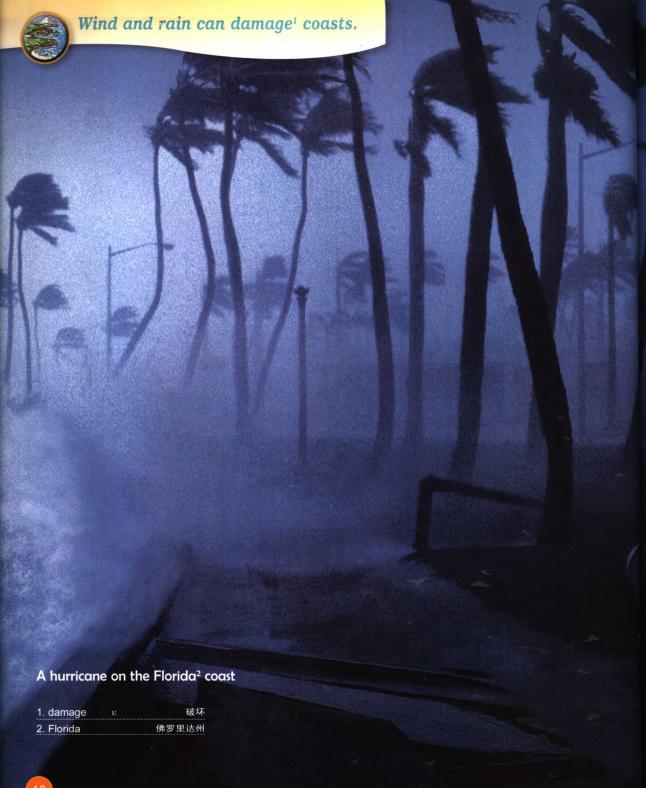
Palm trees grow near Ireland's sunny, mild

south coast.

| 1.0 | |
|------|------------------|
| ent | 洋流 |
| v. | 流 |
| adj. | 爱尔兰的 |
| n. | 微风 |
| adv. | 别样 |
| | v. adj. n. |

爱尔兰

北大西洋





Hurricanes Endanger Coasts

可怕的飓风

eather on a coast can be frightening.
Oceans can brew up¹
terrible storms. The most powerful² storm in the Atlantic Ocean is a hurricane. A hurricane is a huge, circular³ storm with



A boat blown onto land by Hurricane Andrew

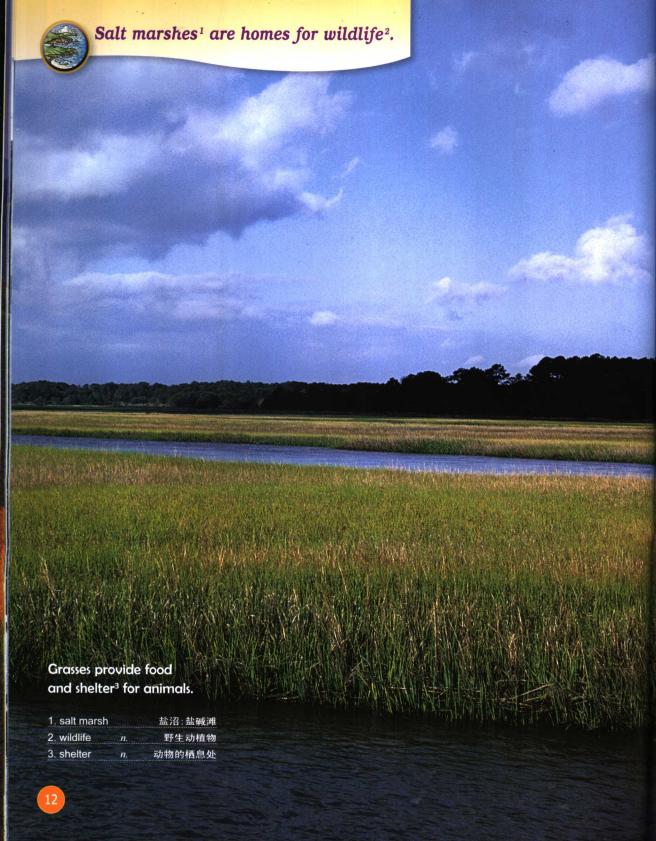
very strong winds and heavy rain. Hurricanes gather⁴ strength⁵ over the open ocean. Most never touch the land. When hurricanes do come ashore⁶, their high winds can cause great damage to a coast. Heavy rains may cause a lot of flooding⁷.

Every summer and fall, hurricanes develop off the Atlantic and Gulf⁸ coasts of the United States. Some come ashore with winds of 320 kilometers per hour! Roofs⁹ are torn¹⁰ from houses. Cars blow away like toys.

Weather services track¹¹ hurricanes. They warn¹² people where the storms will travel.

| 1. brew up | | (风暴等) 酝酿 |
|-------------|------|----------|
| 2. powerful | adj. | 强大的 |
| 3. circular | adj. | 环形的 |
| 4. gather | V. | 积聚;积 |
| 5. strength | n. | 力量 |
| 6. ashore | adv. | 上岸 |

| 7. flood | v. | 发洪水 |
|-----------|----|------|
| 8. Gulf | | 墨西哥湾 |
| 9. roof | n. | 屋顶 |
| 10. tear | v. | 掀开 |
| 11. track | v. | 跟踪 |
| 12. warn | v. | 警告 |
| | | |





Raccoon

Grass shrimp

Coasts Provide Habitats 海滨栖息地

oasts are habitats, or natural homes for different kinds of plants and animals. Salt and fresh water¹ mix² in coast areas. Sometimes, this mixing forms the type of wet grassland known as a salt marsh. Many plants and animals live in salt marshes. Mud snails³ and grass shrimp⁴ hide in the grasses. Fiddler crabs⁵ scamper⁶ across the mud. Birds and raccoons⁷ find lots of food in salt marshes.

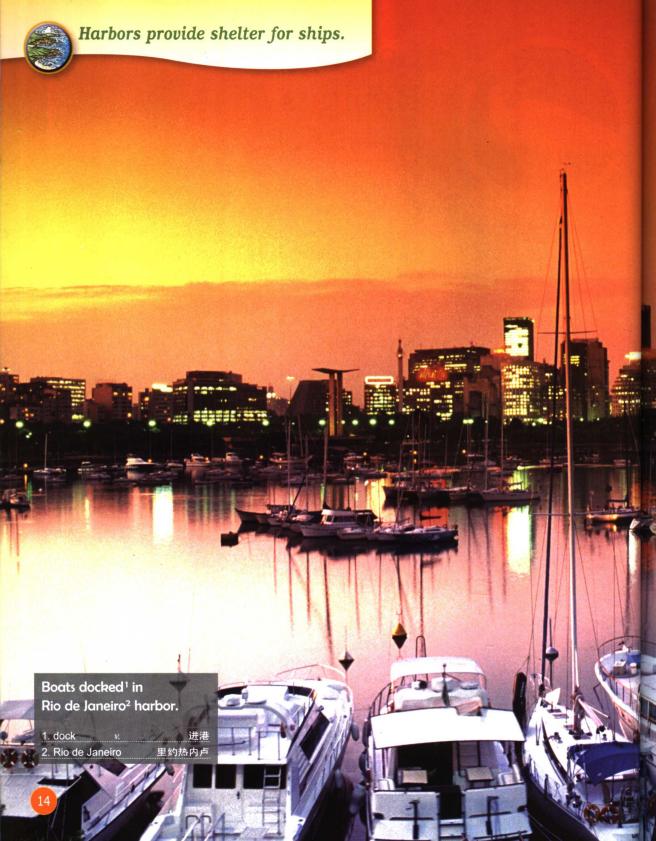
Twice each day, the level⁸ of the sea rises and falls. This movement is called the tides⁹. At high tide, the sea floods the marsh. Salt water comes from the sea. It mixes with fresh water from rivers and streams¹⁰ that also flow into the marsh. This water helps marsh plants grow thick. These plants provide food and shelter for animals in the marsh.

Many sea creatures¹¹ begin their lives in a salt marsh. Newborn fish and shellfish¹² find food and safety there. When they get big enough, they will leave the marsh to live in the sea.

| 1. fresh water | | 淡水 |
|-----------------|------|---------|
| 2. mix | V. | 相混合 |
| 3. mud snail | | 泥螺 |
| 4. grass shrim | р | 草虾 |
| 5. fiddler crab | 招潮 | (属甲壳纲沙 |
| 蟹科的- | 一种小蟹 | , 穴居海滩) |
| 6. scamper | V. | 疾走 |
| 7. raccoon | n. | 浣熊 |

| n. | 水半面 |
|----|----------|
| n. | 潮汐 |
| n. | 溪流 |
| n. | 生物 |
| n. | 有壳的水生动物 |
| et | 雪鹭 |
| | n. n. n. |

Fiddler crab





Harbors Are Safe Places 安全的港湾

arbors are areas of deep water on coastlines that provide a shelter for ships and people. Mountains and hills often surround¹ harbors and protect them from wind and waves². Ships travel on the sea from harbor to harbor. When the weather is stormy, they head for³ the nearest safe harbor.

The city of Rio de Janeiro is located on the coast of Brazil⁴, a country in South America. Rio de Janeiro has one of the most beautiful harbors in the world. Lush⁵ green mountains rise around Rio's harbor like protecting



Rio de Janeiro's harbor

arms. Many ships, both large and small, come into the harbor. Some boats bring goods to trade⁶. Others bring tourists⁷ on big cruise ships⁸.

| 1. surround | v. | 环绕 |
|-------------|----|-----|
| 2. wave | n. | 波浪 |
| 3. head for | | 朝行进 |
| 4. Brazil | | 巴西 |

| 5. lush | adj. | 葱翠的 |
|----------------|------|---------|
| 6. trade | v. | 进行交易 |
| 7. tourist | n. | 游客 |
| 8. cruise ship | | 长途航行的游轮 |