



What is a pier?

A pier is a platform on pillars that goes into the sea from the beach. It might have entertainment arcades and restaurants on it.



KEY KNOWLEDGE:

A pier is a raised walkway across water. It can be a very simple wooden structure which does not affect the tides or it can be an intricate structure and as long as a mile out to sea. Piers were originally built so ships, boats and ferries could bring visitors from the cities to the new seaside resorts. Piers built later on included entertainment arcades, restaurants, cafes and rides to enjoy. There are around 50 piers along Britain's coastline. Famous piers include Blackpool, Brighton and Bournemouth. The longest pier is Southend Pier at over 2kms long!



Vocabulary	Meaning
pier	A platform on pillars that is built into the sea from the beach.
structure	A building or other object made from several parts.
stiffen	Make or become rigid or stiff
frame	A basic structure that supports a structure.
support	To hold up a structure.
horizontal	A line going across
vertical	A line going from top to bottom.
reinforce	Strengthen or support a structure with extra material.
join	Link or connect.

Key Skills:

- Build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable.
- Design functional products for themselves and other users based on design criteria.
- Generate develop and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing and mock ups.
- Explore and evaluate piers using pictures and information.
- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks.
- Select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials according to their characteristics.

Materials we might choose from:

- Boxes
- Cardboard tubes
- Card
- Paper
- Pipe cleaners
- Lolly sticks
- Straws
- Dowelling
- Masking tape
- Sticky tape
- Match sticks

