

Understanding the Burren Landscape

Introductory evening course - education outreach part of the **NEED Project**

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February 15th

- Introduction to Course
- Geological Time
- Dating
- Rock Types

February 22nd

- Geological Concepts
- Plate Tectonics
- Earthquakes and volcanoes
- Evidence of Earth Processes in the Burren
- The Geology of Ireland

March 1st

- Geology of the Burren
- Past Environments
- Limestones
- Shales
- Siltstone & Sandstone
- Evidence of Folding, Burial and Uplift

March 8th

- Landscape of the Burren
- Surface features and processes
- Underground features
- Development of landscape

March 14th

- Field Trip to Black Head; Pollnagollum; Carran Village; Burren National Park

March 15th

- Guest Lecture - *Hydrology & Hydrogeology in the Burren*

NEED - Northern Environmental Education Development

The Northern Environmental Education Development (NEED) project is a transnational cooperation project between Ireland, Finland, Norway and Iceland and is a part of the Northern Periphery Programme 2007-2013. The NEED-project is designed to develop an innovative, operational model to improve the educational use of geo-scientific knowledge in sites of Natural value.

The focus in the NEED project is on:

- environmental education and educational tourism
- environmental awareness amongst local inhabitants
- conserving natural environments and cultural heritage
- networking between the urban and rural educational and tourism resources

The project is funded under the Northern Periphery Programme, which is part of the EU's Interreg IIIB funding program. The Northern Periphery Programme aims to encourage and support transnational co-operation between the regions of Europe. It provides the opportunity for organisations from the programme area to work together on joint projects concerning common issues and problems.

Learning environments

Using the study modules, we will be developing inspiring learning environments in places such as the Burren Centre Kilfenora, the Cliffs of Moher Centre, the Burren National Park, the Burrenbeo Trust, the Burren Outdoor Education Centre, the North Clare Farm Tours Co-op, and with local primary and secondary schools. We consider the whole of the natural environment of the Burren to present learning opportunities and so these study modules will each include outdoor aspects, whereby learners can be immersed in the unique natural learning environment that is the Burren.

The National Partner of the NEED Project in Ireland is the **Burren Connect Project** (Clare County Council) (www.burrenconnect.ie). The Regional Partners include the Geological Survey of Ireland; the Cliffs of Moher Experience Visitor Centre; Shannon Development; National University of Ireland, Galway; The Burren Centre Kilfenora; Burrenbeo Trust; The Burren Outdoor Education Centre.

www.GeoNeed.org