



When Is High Tide?

Twice a day, the ocean reaches its highest and lowest water levels on Earth's coasts. These changes in water level are called tides. In this activity, you will use a map and tide times to predict the next high tide times.

INQUIRY FOCUS Predict

Procedure

1. Get a map from your teacher that shows the times of the two high tides in two cities on a specific day.
2. In the data table below, write the high-tide times for Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Bar Harbor, Maine.
3. Use the tide times and the calculator or pencil and paper to calculate the length of time (the time differences) between the morning and evening high tides for both cities. *Note: Remember that when you subtract, you can change an hour into 60 minutes.* Record your answers in the data table.

Materials

map
calculator

Some Tide Times for the Atlantic Coastline

Tides	Portsmouth	Bar Harbor	Time Difference
Morning high tide time (h/min)			
Evening high tide time (h/min)			

4. Locate Portland, Maine, on the map. Use your calculations to predict the high tides times for Portland. Write your predictions below.

Morning Tide Time: _____ Evening Tide Time: _____

Think It Over

- 1 How does your prediction compare with the prediction of another student?

- 2 Look at the data for all three cities. What can you conclude about the way tide times change along this coast?

TIDES

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