

Malham Cove, a limestone landscape

Limestone pavements are one type of surface feature in the limestone landscape at Malham in the Yorkshire Dales. These pavements are areas of bare limestone rock originally formed by the scouring action of glaciers, up to one kilometre in thickness during the last ice age. They are composed of blocks of rock (clints), separated by vertical cracks (grykes or grikes).

Study the three photos below. The first image is of an area of limestone pavement above Malham Cove.



© Paul Stevenson 2007 <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pss/412537208/>

The second image shows the clints and grykes on a limestone pavement on the Burren in Ireland.

© pdphoto 2002.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_Burren_\(2002\).jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_Burren_(2002).jpg)



The third image is of a limestone pavement on the Burren in Ireland.



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http://www.flickr.com/photos/dusi_bbg/114673515/

Student tasks

1. What similarities can you see in the three photographs on page 1?
2. Use your atlas to locate both Malham Cove in the Yorkshire Dales and the Burren in County Clare, Ireland. Where else does limestone occur in the UK?
3. Using the photograph below, draw a labelled sketch to show clints and grykes on the limestone pavement above Malham Cove.



© Lupin 2004

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Limestone_pavement_above_Malham_Cove.jpg

4. Explain the weathering processes associated with the formation of limestone pavements.
5. Explain how the structure of the rock influences the way that limestone pavements are formed.
6. Describe the drainage in limestone areas.
7. Describe the vegetation and soils of limestone areas.
8. Give examples to explain how limestone influences the way that areas are used. Use the link below for information:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z8cwxnb/revision/1>