

Sea glass

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In July my family went to California. During our visit we went to Corona Del Mar tide pools. Afterwards we were going to have breakfast with my grandparents! It was a chilly, gray, and misty day. We missed low tide; however we were still able to search for shells and other natural treasures in the shallow ocean waters.

Amongst the rocks, shells, and sand we found a special souvenir-- a piece of clear white sea glass.

How is Sea Glass Scientific?

Sea Glass is a product of erosion. Over time, ocean currents tumble and brush the glass against the abrasive sand causing the surface of the glass to be eroded away. Some sea glass takes almost 30 years to form.

As a result, the glass is softened and its sharp edges are worn away. The sand acts like sand paper, scraping the glass to make it soft and dull.

Who knew that the topic of sea glass could be a scientific discussion? I had no idea that I was experiencing a "scientific summer" while on the shores of the Southern California coastline.

Legend has it that the pieces of sea glass that wash up on the worlds beaches are the crystalline tears of mermaids who cry for their lost loves....