

Understanding Population with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To understand the meaning of population, identify the difference between sparsely and densely populated areas, and explain why people choose to live in certain places.

Help Finn the Dolphin map out where people live around the world! Read the questions carefully and use the word bank to help you with your answers.

Word bank: Population · Densely populated · Sparsely populated · Urban · Rural · Resources

1. In your own words, explain what the word 'population' means when we talk about a country or a city. (1 mark)

2. If a city is 'densely populated', does this mean a lot of people live close together, or a few people live far apart? (1 mark)

3. Finn has found a map of a desert where very few people live. Should he describe this area as 'densely populated' or 'sparsely populated'? Explain why. (2 marks)

4. Give two reasons why people might choose to live in a big city (an urban area) rather than in the countryside. (2 marks)

5. Imagine a village located high up in a freezing cold mountain range. Why might the population of this area be very low? (2 marks)

6. What is the difference between a rural area and an urban area? (2 marks)

Draw: Divide your box into two halves. On one side, draw a densely populated city street. On the other side, draw a sparsely populated countryside scene.



Extension challenge: If you were planning a new town, what three important resources would you make sure were available to attract a larger population to live there?