

Year 4 Geography: Understanding Settlements

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and explain how and why settlements grow and change over time.

Read each question carefully. Answer in full sentences where required. Ensure you use geographical vocabulary.

Finn the dolphin loves exploring the coastline. He often observes how human settlements start near rivers or the sea to help with trade and travel. Over time, small villages can grow into large, bustling cities as more people move to the area for work, schools, and shops.

Word bank: settlement · urban · rural · infrastructure · resources · transport · population · trade

1. Define the difference between a 'rural' settlement and an 'urban' settlement. Give one example of what you might find in each. (2 marks)

2. List two natural resources or geographical features that might encourage people to build a settlement in a specific location. (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey is looking at a village. He notices it has a post office, a small shop, and one primary school. Why might this settlement be classified as a village rather than a city? (3 marks)

4. Explain how the arrival of a new railway station could change a small town over time. Think about how this affects the people living there. (4 marks)

5. Look at the following costs: A farmer in a rural village sells local honey for £4.00 a jar. A shop in a busy urban city sells the same honey for £6.50. Why might the price be higher in the city? (4 marks)

6. Imagine you are planning a brand new settlement. Write a paragraph explaining where you would build it and why. Mention the land, water sources, and transport links. (5 marks)

7. Name one type of infrastructure that every growing settlement needs to support its population. (2 marks)

8. Why do most settlements grow near rivers? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a bird's-eye view map of a small village. Label the following: a river, a bridge, three houses, and a community space like a park or school.



Extension challenge: Total: /25