

Exploring Settlements with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify and describe the characteristics of different types of settlements, including land use and why they are located in specific places.

Read each question carefully and use your geography knowledge to answer. Think about why people choose to build homes in certain areas.

Finn the Dolphin has been exploring the coastlines and river mouths where humans build their homes. From the small, quiet hamlets in the countryside to the bustling, tall-building cities, Finn has noticed that every settlement has a story. Whether it is near a river for fresh water, or near a busy road for trade, people always have a reason for where they choose to live and build their communities.

Word bank: settlement · urban · rural · village · city · infrastructure · resources · transport

1. Finn spots a small settlement with very few houses, narrow lanes, and lots of surrounding farmland. Is this an urban or rural settlement? Explain your choice. (2 marks)

2. Give two reasons why a group of people might choose to build a new settlement near a river. (2 marks)

3. What is the difference between a village and a city in terms of their size and the number of services they provide? (2 marks)

4. If a new settlement was built in the middle of a desert with no roads or water nearby, why might it be difficult for people to live there? (2 marks)

5. Max the monkey wants to build a shop in a new settlement. Should he build it in a place with a high population or a low population? Why? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of a small fictional village. Include at least three important features that a settlement needs, such as a water source, a road, and homes. Label your features.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an explorer. Write a short paragraph explaining why you would choose a specific location to build a new town. Think about what natural resources (like wood, water, or fertile soil) you would need to survive.