

Mapping the Wonders of the World with Finn

Learning objective: To use and interpret maps, including symbols, keys, and four-figure grid references, to describe geographical features.

Use this writing frame to describe your imaginary expedition across a new landscape. Follow the prompts to guide your reader through the map you have created.

As Finn the dolphin surfaced from the azure waves, he looked out across the mysterious Isle of Echoes and pulled out his trusty map to plan our journey.

Word bank: furthermore · located in the north-east · symbolises · intersecting · in contrast · navigating · topographical features · adjacent to · consequently · grid reference

1. Introduction: Describe the landscape you are mapping. Begin by writing: 'The terrain of this region is defined by...' (2 marks)

2. Map Features: Explain how you used symbols to represent physical features. Begin by writing: 'To help a traveller identify natural landmarks, I included symbols for...' (3 marks)

3. Grid References: Explain how a explorer would find a specific location using your grid. Begin by writing: 'To locate the hidden forest, one must look at the intersection of...' (3 marks)

4. Compare and Contrast: Compare the features in the north of your map to the features in the south. Begin by writing: 'Whilst the northern quadrant is characterised by..., the southern area is significantly different because...' (4 marks)

5. Justification: Why is it important for a map to include a clear key or legend? Begin by writing: 'A map without a key would be problematic because...' (3 marks)

6. Hypothesis: What might happen if the scale of your map was inaccurate? Begin by writing: 'If the scale were incorrect, an explorer might...' (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a 'Greater Depth' challenge: Imagine you are tasked with creating a 3D relief map of your area. Explain how you would represent changing elevations and contour lines using only recycled materials. Justify your material choices based on their texture and durability.