

Finn's Global Trading Log: Investigating Our World

Learning objective: To understand the concept of trade, identify imports and exports, and explore how goods travel around the world.

Help Finn the dolphin map the journey of items we use every day. Use your research skills to fill in this log, explaining where items come from and how they arrive in the UK. Make sure to use the word bank to help you describe the process of trade.

Word bank: export · import · trade · global · cargo · transport · economy · supply chain · currency · distribution

1. Identify one item you use at home that is an 'import'. Where was it produced, and why do you think it had to be brought into the UK? (3 marks)

2. Explain why a country might choose to 'export' a specific product to other parts of the world. What are the potential benefits for their economy? (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the way goods might be transported by sea versus by air. Which method would you choose for a delicate, expensive item and why? (4 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Is it better for a country to produce everything it needs itself, or to rely on trade with other nations? Give two reasons for your opinion. (4 marks)

5. What might happen to the price of a popular fruit, like a banana, if the trade route from the country where it grows was suddenly blocked? (3 marks)

6. If you were a merchant, what 'export' would you choose to trade from your local area to the rest of the world? Explain your choice. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a 'Trade Route Map' on a separate sheet. Draw a world map and choose three items from your house. Use coloured arrows to show the journey these items took from the country of origin to your home. Write a short paragraph explaining the 'hidden costs' of transport, such as fuel, time, and the labour involved in the journey.