

Exploring Settlements with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To understand, identify, and compare different types of human settlements and the reasons why they were established.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of how and why people settle in different locations. Finn the Dolphin has travelled the world's waterways to gather these facts for you!

What is a settlement? A place where people live, work, and build homes.	Define a 'Rural' settlement. A settlement in the countryside, such as a village or farm, with a lower population density.
Define an 'Urban' settlement. A built-up area such as a town or city with a high population density and lots of infrastructure.	Why were many early settlements built near rivers? For access to fresh water, fertile soil for farming, and the ability to travel and trade goods by boat.
What is 'Infrastructure'? The basic structures and facilities needed for a society to function, such as roads, schools, and power lines.	What is the difference between a village and a city? A village is small with few services, while a city is large with many services, skyscrapers, and extensive transport networks.
What are 'Natural Resources'? Materials found in nature that humans use, such as water, wood, coal, or minerals.	Explain why a settlement might grow into a large city. It often grows because of its location near trade routes, job opportunities, or access to important resources.
Compare and contrast living in a remote village versus a bustling city. A village offers a quieter life with more nature, whereas a city offers more variety in jobs, shops, and public transport.	Justify your answer: Why is a reliable water source essential for a permanent settlement? Humans need water for drinking, growing crops, washing, and livestock; without it, they would have to move to find survival resources.
What might happen if a large city was built in a place with no roads or rail links? The city would struggle to receive food, fuel, and materials, making it difficult for people to work or trade effectively.	If you were founding a new settlement, which three factors would you prioritise and why? (Open-ended) Pupils should consider factors like water, shelter, fertile land, or transport links.