

Mapping Our Settlements with Finn the Dolphin

Dive into Discovery: Where do we live and why?

- A settlement is a place where people live and build homes. Small settlements in the countryside are known as rural areas, while large, busy areas with many buildings are called urban settlements.
- Land use defines how an area is used. This can include residential areas for houses, industrial zones for factories, or commercial zones for shops and businesses.
- Infrastructure is the essential framework of a settlement. It includes the roads, bridges, pipes, and power lines that allow a community to function and grow effectively.
- Economic activity refers to the jobs people do to earn money. In rural settlements, this might be farming, whereas urban settlements often have a wider variety of office and service-based roles.
- Settlements are not permanent in their design; they change over time. As a population grows, new houses are built and transport links are improved to connect people to new places.

Did you know? Did you know that some of the earliest human settlements were built near rivers? Finn the Dolphin has noticed that throughout history, people have chosen to settle near water because it provided easy transport, fresh water for crops, and a source of food!

Key vocabulary: Settlement · Urbanisation · Land use · Infrastructure · Economic activity · Rural · Population density