

Finn's Global Climate Adventure

Learning objective: To identify and describe the characteristics of different climate zones and understand how they affect the world around us.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions below using full sentences where appropriate.

Finn the dolphin has travelled across every ocean, mapping the world's geography. As he swims from the icy Arctic to the warm, sun-drenched waters near the equator, he notices how much the climate changes. The climate is the average weather pattern of a place over a very long time. Near the equator, Finn enjoys the tropical climate, where it is hot and humid all year round with heavy rainfall. This heat helps lush rainforests flourish. As Finn swims further north or south towards the poles, the climate becomes much colder. In these polar regions, the temperature rarely rises above freezing, and the landscape is dominated by ice and snow. Between these two extremes lies the temperate zone. This is where most of the United Kingdom is situated. In a temperate climate, we experience four distinct seasons: spring, summer, fall, and winter. The weather can change daily, but it is rarely extreme. Finn knows that understanding these climate zones is vital for protecting the creatures and plants that call these unique environments home. By studying these patterns, we can learn how to look after our planet better.

Word bank: climate · equator · polar · temperate · precipitation · tropical · latitude

1. According to the text, what is the definition of 'climate'? (2 marks)

2. Which three climate zones are mentioned in the passage? (2 marks)

3. Why do you think rainforests are able to grow so well in the tropical zone? (2 marks)

4. How does the author suggest the temperate zone differs from the polar zone? (2 marks)

5. Finn says that understanding climate zones is 'vital'. Do you agree? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of the world showing the three climate zones mentioned. Use blue for the polar regions, green for the temperate zone, and bright yellow or orange for the tropical zone near the equator.



Extension challenge: Research one animal that lives in a polar climate and one that lives in a tropical climate. Write a short paragraph explaining how their bodies are adapted to survive in their specific climate.