

Finn's Explorer Map Fact-File

Learning objective: To use map skills, including grid references, symbols, and scale, to describe and interpret geographical features.

Join Finn the dolphin on his latest expedition! Use your geography knowledge to fill in this fact-file about a local area or a map you have been studying in class. Ensure you use appropriate geographical vocabulary and accurate grid references.

Word bank: Grid reference · Ordnance Survey · Scale · Compass rose · Key · Latitude · Longitude · Physical features · Human features

1. Map Details: State the name of the area your map covers and use the compass rose to describe the direction of a major landmark from the center of the map. (2 marks)

2. Grid Reference Hunt: Choose a physical feature (like a river or hill) and a human feature (like a bridge or school) on your map. Write down the four-figure grid reference for each. (3 marks)

3. Interpreting the Key: Identify three different symbols used in the map key and explain what they represent in the real world. (3 marks)

4. Calculating Scale: If the scale of your map is 1cm to 1km, calculate the real-world distance between two points on your map using a ruler. (2 marks)

5. Geographical Reflection: Why is it important for explorers like Finn to have an accurate key and scale when navigating unknown territory? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Design your own map of an imaginary island! Include a title, a compass rose, a detailed key with at least six symbols, and a scale bar. Use four-figure grid references to challenge a partner to find 'treasure' hidden on your map.