

Finn's Geography Guide: Understanding Settlements

Learning objective: To identify and define key terms related to human settlements and why people choose to live in different places.

Read each card. Try to remember the definition of the settlement term before checking the answer on the other side.

What is a settlement?	Define a village.
A place where people live and build their homes, which can range from a single house to a huge city.	A small settlement found in a rural area, usually with a small population and limited services like a store or a primary school.
What is the main difference between a town and a village?	Define a city.
A town is larger than a village, has more people living in it, and offers a wider range of shops and services.	A very large and important settlement with a high population density, many buildings, and major transport links.
What does 'urban' mean?	What does 'rural' mean?
An area relating to a town or city, often with many buildings and roads close together.	An area in the countryside, away from towns and cities, often featuring farmland or open spaces.
What is infrastructure?	What are services in a settlement?
The basic physical structures needed for a settlement to work, such as roads, railways, water pipes, and electricity cables.	Facilities provided for the people who live there, such as hospitals, libraries, banks, and mail offices.
Why might people choose to build a settlement near a river?	What is a 'site' in geography?
For a reliable water supply, for transport, for fishing, and for fertile soil to grow crops.	The specific piece of land where a settlement is built, often chosen for its safety, water supply, or building materials.
Give an example of a natural resource that might encourage people to settle in an area.	What does population density mean?
Minerals, coal, timber, or fertile land for farming.	A measure of how many people live in a specific area, such as a square kilometre.