

Finn's Settlement Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and describe the characteristics of different types of settlements, including hamlets, villages, towns, and cities.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the land! Use this fact-file to investigate a settlement near your school or a place you know well. Observe the features, think about why the settlement was built there, and identify the key services available to the people living there.

Word bank: settlement · hamlet · village · town · city · infrastructure · population · services · location · human features · physical features

1. Location and Classification: Identify the name of your chosen settlement and classify its size (e.g., hamlet, village, town, or city). Explain why you have chosen this classification. (3 marks)

2. Physical vs. Human Features: Describe two physical features (natural) and two human features (man-made) that can be found in this settlement. (4 marks)

3. Reasons for Settlement: Why do you think people first chose to settle in this specific location? Consider factors like water sources, trade, or transport links. (3 marks)

4. Services and Infrastructure: List three essential services available in this settlement (e.g., schools, shops, transport). How do these services support the local population? (3 marks)

5. Compare and Contrast: Compare this settlement to a different type of settlement (e.g., a city vs. a village). What are the main differences in their size and the services they provide? (4 marks)

6. Justify your answer: If this settlement were to double in population over the next ten years, what might happen to the land use? Justify your prediction. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an urban planner. Design a brand-new settlement on a piece of paper. You must include at least one physical feature (like a river or hill) and decide where to place your residential, commercial, and green spaces. Write a paragraph explaining why you placed your buildings in those specific spots to ensure the settlement functions efficiently.