

Finn's Global Trading Adventure

Learning objective: To understand the concept of trade and how goods are imported and exported between countries.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below using full sentences.

Finn the dolphin loves exploring the busy shipping lanes that criss-cross our oceans. He often watches giant container ships carrying goods from one side of the world to the other. This is called global trade. When a country sends items, like British-made cars or tea, to another country, we call this an export. When we bring items in, such as bananas from warmer climates or electronics from overseas, we call this an import. Trade is vital because it allows us to access products that we cannot produce ourselves due to our climate or resources. For example, Finn noticed that many strawberries in local shops are grown in the UK during the summer, but in winter, they are imported from countries like Spain. These goods travel thousands of miles across the sea, carefully packed in huge metal containers. Without this exchange, our shops would be much emptier and our daily lives would look very different. By trading fairly, countries can support each other's economies while ensuring that people everywhere can enjoy a wide variety of food, technology, and clothing.

Word bank: export · import · global trade · cargo · economy · supply chain

1. What is the difference between an import and an export? (2 marks)

2. According to the passage, why do we need to import strawberries during the winter months? (2 marks)

3. Why might a country choose to export goods that it produces in large quantities? (2 marks)

4. What does the passage suggest would happen to our local shops if global trade suddenly stopped? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is better for a country to produce all its own food or to rely on trade? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a large cargo ship on the ocean with two arrows: one pointing away from a landmass labeled 'Export' and one pointing toward it labeled 'Import'.



Extension challenge: Research one item in your home that has a 'Made in...' label. Find that country on a map and calculate roughly how far it has traveled to reach your house.