

Grade 4 Geography Assessment: Weather and Climate

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of the differences between weather and climate, the water cycle, and global climate zones.

Read each question carefully. Answer in full sentences where required. Ensure you use the provided word bank to support your explanations.

Finn the dolphin has been traveling across the world's oceans. He has noticed that in the tropical waters near the Equator, the sun is hot and the rain is heavy all year round. However, when he swims further north towards the chilly Arctic, the weather changes completely. He wonders how the water he splashes in today will eventually turn into clouds and travel to different parts of the world.

Word bank: Precipitation · Evaporation · Condensation · Equator · Temperature · Atmosphere · Climate Zone · Meteorology

1. Using Finn's observations, explain the difference between 'weather' and 'climate'. (2 marks)

2. Name the three main stages of the water cycle. Briefly describe what happens during one of these stages. (3 marks)

3. Why is the temperature generally much warmer near the Equator than at the North or South Poles? (3 marks)

4. Nova the owl is recording the temperature every day for a week. Is she measuring the weather or the climate? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

5. Look at the UK climate. Describe one way that the UK's temperate climate affects the type of clothing people choose to wear throughout the year. (2 marks)

6. Explain how climate change might impact the natural habitats of animals like Finn the dolphin or Bea the honeybee. Provide two specific examples. (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Imagine you are a travel reporter. Write a short report (approx. 80-100 words) comparing the climate of a tropical rainforest to the climate of a polar region. Include details about rainfall, temperature, and how humans have adapted to live in these zones. (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram showing the water cycle. Include labels for evaporation, condensation, and precipitation.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research the 'Greenhouse Effect'. Write three sentences explaining how it keeps the Earth warm and what happens if it becomes too strong.