

Finn's Settlement Explorer: My Local Area Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and describe the characteristics of a settlement and explain why people chose to live there.

Join Finn the dolphin on a land-based adventure! Explore your local town, village, or city. Use your observation skills and map-reading knowledge to complete this fact-file. Remember to think about why your settlement is located where it is—is it near a river, a road, or a natural resource?

Word bank: settlement · urban · rural · infrastructure · population · location · resources · transport · land use · services

1. Settlement Classification: Is your area a village, town, or city? Describe the population size and why you would classify it this way. (2 marks)

2. Geographical Location: Where is your settlement located? Mention physical features like rivers, hills, or proximity to larger urban areas. (3 marks)

3. Reasons for Settlement: Why do you think people first settled here? Consider trade routes, water supply, or natural defence. (3 marks)

4. Land Use: Describe how the land is used in your settlement. Give examples of residential areas, shops, transport links, or green spaces. (3 marks)

5. Future Growth: If your settlement were to grow, what new services or infrastructure would it need to support more people? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a different type of settlement (e.g., a remote mountain village or a major capital city) and write a short paragraph comparing its land use to your own local area.