Exploring the European Continent with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify key geographical features of Europe, including countries, capital cities, and physical landmarks.

Use your knowledge of European geography to answer the questions below. Finn the Dolphin has been mapping the coastal waters and river systems of Europe and needs your help to complete his atlas!

Europe is a diverse continent known for its varying landscapes, from the icy peaks of the Alps to the sunny Mediterranean coast. It is bordered by the Arctic Ocean to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the west, and the Mediterranean Sea to the south. Many countries in Europe share borders, languages, and history.

Word bank: continent · capital city · latitude · longitude · mountain range · coastal · climate · European Union

1. Name three countries found within the continent of Europe and state their corresponding capital cities. (3 marks)

2. The Alps is a famous mountain range in Europe. Explain why mountain ranges are important to the geography of the countries they pass through. (2 marks)

3. If Finn the Dolphin swims from the Mediterranean Sea to the North Sea, which direction would he be travelling in? Explain how you know. (2 marks)

4. Europe has many major rivers. Name one major European river and the country (or countries) it flows through. (2 marks)

5. Why might a country located on the coast have a different economy or lifestyle compared to a landlocked country? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of Europe and label the following features: The Alps, The Mediterranean Sea, and one major river of your choice.

Extension challenge: Research a European country that uses the Euro as its currency. Find out how much a loaf of bread or a bottle of milk might cost there in £ (using a currency converter) and compare it to the average price of these items in a local UK shop.