

Settlements: Where We Live and Why

Join Finn the Dolphin on a journey across the land to discover how our towns and cities grow!

- A settlement is a place where people live and build homes, which can range from a tiny hamlet to a giant, bustling city.
- Urban settlements, like large cities, often have high populations, tall buildings, and complex transport systems like trains and buses.
- Rural settlements, such as villages or hamlets, are usually found in the countryside and often have fewer people and more open green spaces.
- Many settlements were built near natural resources like coal, iron, or fertile soil, which helped people grow food or build industries.
- Topography, or the shape of the land, matters! People prefer to build on flat land rather than steep mountainsides because it is easier to build houses and roads.
- Infrastructure, such as roads, electricity, and water pipes, is essential for a modern settlement to function and keep its citizens connected.

Did you know? Did you know? The oldest continuously inhabited settlement in the world is thought to be Jericho, which has been home to people for over 10,000 years! Many early settlements began near rivers because they provided fresh water for drinking, farming, and easy transport for trade.

Key vocabulary: Settlement · Urban · Rural · Infrastructure · Resources · Topography · Trade