

Mapping the Wonders of Africa with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify and describe key geographical features, climate zones, and biomes of the African continent.

Finn the Dolphin has been mapping the coastal waters and surrounding landscapes of Africa. He has collected data about different regions, but his notes have become jumbled! Use the word bank to correctly sort the geographical features into their respective categories. Then, answer the challenge questions to demonstrate your deeper understanding of the continent's diverse physical geography.

Word bank: Sahara Desert · Equator · Nile River · Mount Kilimanjaro · Savannah · Tropical Rainforest · Mediterranean Sea · Atlas Mountains · Great Rift Valley · Victoria Falls

1. Categorise the items from the word bank into three groups: 'Water Bodies', 'Landforms', and 'Biomes'. Justify why the Sahara is classified as a biome rather than a landform. (3 marks)

2. Explain why the climate near the Equator in Africa differs significantly from the climate in the northernmost parts of the continent. (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the physical geography of a tropical rainforest with that of the savannah. What impact does this have on the wildlife found in each area? (3 marks)

4. What might happen if the Nile River were to dry up? Consider both the human impact and the ecological consequences for the surrounding environment. (4 marks)

5. Mount Kilimanjaro is near the Equator, yet it has snow at its peak. Using your knowledge of geography, explain how this is possible. (2 marks)

6. If you were planning an expedition across Africa, which two distinct biomes would you choose to visit and why? Justify your choice based on the unique geographical features of those regions. (3 marks)

Draw: Sketch a map of the African continent and label the Equator, the Sahara Desert, and the Nile River. Add a small illustration of an animal or plant that would be native to each of these three distinct areas.



Extension challenge: Research the 'Great Green Wall' project. Write a short paragraph explaining the geographical goal of this initiative and how it intends to combat desertification in the Sahel region. How does this project reflect humanity's attempt to adapt to or modify the natural environment?