

Finn's Global Climate Expedition

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and compare the characteristics of different climate zones and understand how latitude affects global temperature.

Finn the dolphin is mapping the world's climate zones. Use the word bank to correctly identify the climate zone being described in each question. For the 'Greater Depth' questions, you must provide a geographical justification for your answers.

Word bank: Tropical Zone · Arid Zone · Temperate Zone · Polar Zone · Equator · Latitude

1. Finn swims near the Equator where the sun is strongest all year round. Which climate zone is this, and why is it consistently hot here compared to the poles? (2 marks)

2. Identify the climate zone characterised by very low precipitation and extreme temperature fluctuations between day and night. Explain the geographical reason for this lack of moisture. (2 marks)

3. The United Kingdom is located in which climate zone? Compare this zone to the Polar Zone in terms of seasonal variation. (2 marks)

4. Justify your answer: If a mountain range is located within the Tropical Zone but reaches a very high altitude, would it experience a tropical climate at its peak? Explain why. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to global ecosystems if the Temperate Zone shifted further towards the poles due to rising global temperatures? (3 marks)

6. Compare and contrast the impact of latitude on the climate of a coastal city versus an inland city within the same climate zone. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of the Earth showing the lines of latitude. Label the Equator, the Tropics, and the Polar regions, and draw one animal native to each zone that Finn might encounter on his travels.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a climate scientist. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why protecting the biodiversity of the Tropical Zone is essential for the health of the entire planet's climate system.