

Exploring the Wonders of North America with Finn

Learning objective: To identify, locate, and describe key physical and human geographical features of North America, including major countries, climate zones, and biomes.

Use your geographical knowledge and atlas skills to answer the following questions about the North American continent. Ensure your answers are detailed and use geographical terminology.

Finn the dolphin has travelled far from his ocean home to map the diverse landscapes of North America. From the frozen reaches of the far north to the tropical southern coastlines, this vast continent is home to a staggering variety of environments. Whether it is the towering peaks of the mountain ranges or the bustling human geography of its major cities, North America offers a unique study of how people and nature interact across different latitudes.

Word bank: Arctic Circle · Tundra · Rocky Mountains · Mississippi River · Biome · Human geography · Physical geography · Climate zone · Latitude

1. Identify three countries that make up the majority of the North American landmass. Explain why these countries have such diverse climate zones. (3 marks)

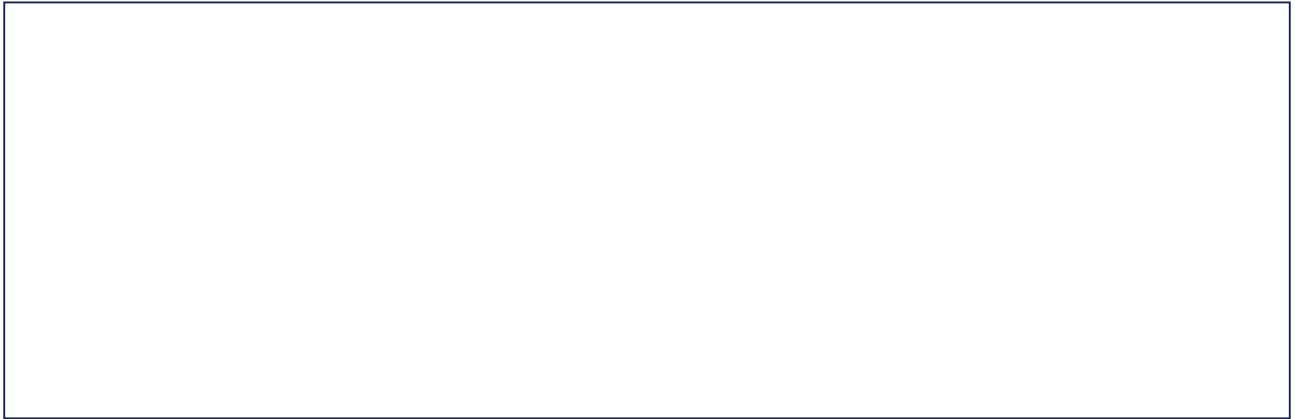
2. Compare and contrast the physical geography of the Rocky Mountains with the Great Plains. How do these different terrains affect how people live in these areas? (3 marks)

3. Explain why the northern parts of Canada and Alaska are classified as Tundra biomes. Reference the Arctic Circle in your answer. (2 marks)

4. The Mississippi River is a vital feature of North American human geography. Justify its importance to trade and transport for the communities living along its banks. (3 marks)

5. If you were to travel from Mexico to Northern Canada, describe how the vegetation and climate would change. What might happen if the global climate continues to warm, affecting these biomes? (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of North America. Label the three largest countries, the Rocky Mountains, and the Mississippi River. Add small symbols to show where you might find a desert biome and where you might find a frozen Tundra biome.



Extension challenge: Research a specific natural landmark in North America (e.g., The Grand Canyon or The Great Lakes). Write a short report explaining how this landmark was formed and why it is a significant feature of the continent's physical geography.