Exploring Global Climates with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To understand the difference between weather and climate, and to identify different climate zones across the world.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of geography to provide detailed answers. Remember to explain your reasoning where required.

Word bank: Equator · Tropical · Temperate · Polar · Precipitation · Atmosphere · Latitude · Arid

1. Finn the Dolphin is travelling from the Arctic Ocean to the Indian Ocean. Explain the difference between 'weather' and 'climate' that he might experience during his long journey. (2 marks)

2. Why are the regions closest to the Equator generally much warmer than regions near the North and South Poles? Mention the importance of latitude in your answer. (2 marks)

3. Identify and describe two characteristics of a 'Polar' climate zone. (2 marks)

4. If a travel agent is selling a holiday to an 'arid' climate, what kind of weather should the traveller expect? Use the word 'precipitation' in your explanation. (2 marks)

5. The United Kingdom has a 'temperate' climate. List two ways in which a temperate climate differs from a tropical climate. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of the world and label the Equator, the Tropical zone, and the two Polar zones using different colours to show the temperature differences.

Extension challenge: Research a country of your choice. Write a short paragraph explaining its climate and how this affects the types of plants and animals that can live there.