Finn’s Climate Explorer: Sorting the Seasons and Zones

Learning objective: To identify the characteristics of different climate zones and understand how they differ from weather.

Finn the dolphin has travelled across the globe. Help him sort the following descriptions into the correct climate zone category: Polar, Temperate, or Tropical. Read each description carefully and write it under the correct heading in your table.

Word bank: Polar · Temperate · Tropical · Equator · Arctic · Rainforest · Seasons · Freezing

1. 1. It is very hot and humid all year round, with lots of rainfall. This zone is found near the Equator. Which zone is this? (2 marks)

2. 2. The weather changes throughout the four seasons: spring, summer, autumn, and winter. This is the climate zone where the UK is located. Which zone is this? (2 marks)

3. 3. This zone is extremely cold, with ice and snow covering the ground for most of the year. Which zone is this? (2 marks)

4. 4. Explain the difference between 'weather' and 'climate' in your own words. (3 marks)

5. 5. If you were packing a suitcase to visit a Tropical zone, name two items you would definitely leave at home and explain why. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a large map of the world. Use a blue crayon to colour the Polar regions, a green crayon for the Tropical zone near the middle, and a yellow crayon for the Temperate zones in between.

Extension challenge: Research one animal that lives in a Polar climate and one animal that lives in a Tropical climate. Write two sentences explaining how their bodies are adapted to suit their specific home.