Exploring the World's Biomes with Finn

Learning objective: To understand what a biome is and identify the characteristics of different environments across the globe.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below to show your understanding of biomes.

Finn the dolphin loves to travel across the vast, blue oceans, but he is also curious about the land. He likes to teach his friends that our planet is divided into different biomes. A biome is a large area of the Earth that has its own special climate, soil, and types of plants and animals. Some biomes, like the tropical rainforest, are hot and wet all year round, with thick trees and colourful flowers. Other biomes, such as the tundra, are very cold and have very little vegetation because the ground stays frozen for most of the year. Finn also enjoys visiting the hot, sandy desert. Even though it looks empty, many creatures have adapted to live there by coming out only at night when it is cooler. Whether it is a grassy savannah or a snowy mountain, every biome is a unique home for the living things that dwell within it. Understanding these different areas helps us appreciate how diverse and wonderful our world truly is.

Word bank: biome · environment · climate · equator · habitat · vegetation

1. According to the text, what are the three things that help define a biome? (2 marks)

2. What does the text say about the desert to explain why it is not completely empty? (2 marks)

3. Why might a plant struggle to grow in the tundra biome? (2 marks)

4. Based on the description of the tropical rainforest, what kind of weather do you think you would need to pack for if you visited one? (2 marks)

5. Which biome would you most like to visit and why? Give one reason for your choice. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture showing two different biomes side by side. For example, draw a hot, sandy desert on the left and a cold, snowy tundra on the right. Label the animals or plants you might find in each.

Extension challenge: Research one animal that lives in a rainforest and one that lives in a desert. Write two sentences explaining how their bodies help them survive in their specific biome.