Year 3 Geography Assessment: Climate and Weather

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of the difference between weather and climate, and to identify different climate zones across the world.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and check your spelling. You have 30 minutes to complete this assessment.

Finn the dolphin spends his time swimming across the globe, observing how different places feel. He notices that some places near the middle of the Earth are hot all year round, while places near the top and bottom are very cold. Finn knows that the weather tells us what is happening outside today, but the climate tells us what the weather is usually like over a very long time.

Word bank: Equator · Temperature · Precipitation · Climate Zone · Tropical · Polar · Temperate · Weather

1. Using Finn's observation, explain the difference between 'weather' and 'climate' in your own words. (3 marks)

2. Name the imaginary line that circles the middle of the Earth, where the climate is often very hot. (1 mark)

3. List three different types of weather that you might experience in a temperate climate like the United Kingdom. (3 marks)

4. Why is the Polar climate zone much colder than the Tropical climate zone? Think about where they are located on the globe. (4 marks)

5. If a farmer wants to grow tropical fruit, would they be more successful in a Tropical zone or a Polar zone? Explain why. (4 marks)

6. Imagine you are a travel writer. Write a short report (50-70 words) describing the climate of a place you have visited or studied. Include details about the temperature and the amount of precipitation (rain or snow). (5 marks)

7. If a warm winter coat costs £45.00 and a light summer t-shirt costs £10.00, what is the difference in price between the two items? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of the Earth. Clearly mark the Equator and show where you would find a Polar climate and a Tropical climate.

Extension challenge: Total: /25