Finn’s Global Weather Tour

Learning objective: To understand the differences between climate zones and how they affect the world.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below using full sentences.

Finn the dolphin loves to travel across the vast oceans of our planet. As he swims, he notices that different places have different climates. Climate is the usual weather pattern a place has over a long time. Near the middle of the Earth, called the equator, the climate is tropical. It is warm and sunny all year round, with lots of rain to help the rainforests grow. Finn enjoys the warm water there, but he knows he cannot stay too long because he also likes to explore colder regions.

Far to the north and south, near the poles, the climate is polar. Here, it is freezing cold, and the ground is covered in ice for most of the year. In between these extremes is the temperate zone, where Finn’s friends live. This climate has four distinct seasons: spring, summer, autumn, and winter. The weather changes throughout the year, meaning trees lose their leaves in autumn and flowers bloom in spring. Whether it is a hot tropical forest or a chilly temperate wood, every climate is special and helps different plants and animals survive in their own unique homes.

Word bank: climate · equator · tropical · polar · temperate · weather · seasons

1. What is the difference between weather and climate? (2 marks)

2. Where on Earth would you find a polar climate? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think trees in a temperate climate lose their leaves in autumn? (2 marks)

4. How does the climate near the equator help rainforests to grow? (2 marks)

5. If you could choose to live in a tropical or a polar climate, which would you pick and why? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture showing two different climate zones side-by-side, such as a snowy polar landscape next to a sunny tropical beach.

Extension challenge: Research one animal that lives in a polar climate and one that lives in a tropical climate. Write one sentence about how their body is adapted to survive in that weather.