Exploring Our World: Physical and Human Geography

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and explain the differences between physical and human geographical features.

Use your geographical knowledge to answer the questions below. Finn the Dolphin is ready to help you navigate through these challenges about our planet!

Physical geography focuses on the natural processes of the Earth, such as weather, climate, and the formation of landforms. Human geography focuses on how humans interact with the planet, including how we build cities, manage resources, and organise our societies.

Word bank: topography · infrastructure · settlement · erosion · urbanisation · tributary · land use · atmosphere

1. Finn the Dolphin is studying the coastline. List two examples of physical geographical features and two examples of human geographical features you might find near a seaside town. (4 marks)

2. Explain how a human activity, such as building a new bridge, might impact the physical geography of a local river. (2 marks)

3. Max the Monkey is looking at a map of a city. He notices a large park in the centre. Is this park considered a physical or human feature? Give a reason for your answer. (2 marks)

4. If a town decided to build a new housing estate on a local forest, what might happen to the local wildlife habitats? Use the term 'land use' in your answer. (2 marks)

5. Give one example of how the physical geography of a region (like a mountainous area) can influence where humans choose to build their settlements. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a split-screen illustration. On the left side, draw a natural landscape with no human influence. On the right side, draw the same landscape, but include human features like a small village, a road, and a farm.

Extension challenge: Research a major UK city. Write a short paragraph explaining one way the human geography of the city has changed over the last 100 years, and one way the physical geography of the surrounding area has been managed or protected.