Mapping Our Settlements: Where Do We Live?

Join Finn the Dolphin on a journey across the land to discover why we build where we do!

- **Urban areas are defined by high population density and built-up infrastructure, whereas rural areas typically feature lower population density and more open, green space.**
- **A settlement hierarchy ranks places by size and services; a small hamlet offers few services, while a city provides a wide range of amenities like hospitals and universities.**
- **Physical geography, such as flat land (topography) and access to water, is a primary reason why many historic settlements were established in specific locations.**
- **Land use in settlements is categorised into residential (housing), commercial (shops and offices), industrial (factories), and recreational (parks and leisure).**
- **Modern settlements require complex infrastructure, including transport networks like roads and railways, to connect people to jobs and resources efficiently.**

Did you know? Did you know? The world's largest conurbations often started as small settlements near rivers. Rivers provided essential water for drinking, transport for trade, and a source of food, making them the perfect 'starting line' for a growing city!

Key vocabulary: Urban · Rural · Conurbation · Infrastructure · Natural Resources · Topography · Settlement Hierarchy