Exploring Global Climate Zones with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify and illustrate the characteristics of different global climate zones, including the equator, tropics, and polar regions.

Finn the Dolphin is mapping the world's climates! Use the drawing space to create a cross-section of the Earth. Follow the steps below to label your diagram and show how the climate changes as you move away from the equator.

Draw: Create a clear, labelled diagram of the Earth. Use a 'cross-section' style. Include the Equator line, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, and the Arctic/Antarctic circles. Use color to show the climate: deep red/orange for the Tropical zone, greens/yellows for the Temperate zones, and bright white/blue for the Polar regions. Ensure the labels from the word bank are clearly written with lines pointing to the correct areas.

Label words: Equator · Tropical Zone · Temperate Zone · Polar Region · Latitude · Solar Radiation

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large circle to represent the Earth. Draw a horizontal line through the center and label it 'Equator'. Why is the climate typically warmer near this line?

2. Step 2: Sketch a polar bear in the top section and a tropical bird near the equator. Label these as 'Polar Region' and 'Tropical Zone'. Describe one difference between their habitats.

3. Step 3: Draw an arrow pointing from the sun towards the Earth. Label this 'Solar Radiation'. Explain why the poles receive less heat than the equator.

4. Identify one country that would be located in the Tropical Zone and one that would be in the Temperate Zone.

5. How does distance from the sea (maritime vs continental climate) affect the temperature of a region within the Temperate Zone?