

Cities and Settlements

There are different types of settlements which vary in size.



Hamlets are the smallest type of settlement, then villages, towns and cities.

Hamlets and villages are found in rural areas and towns and cities in urban areas.

Life in a small settlement such as a village can be very different to life in a large settlement such as a city. For example, cities can have more services such as transport links and hospitals, but are noisier and busier.



Some settlements were first built thousands of years ago. Their locations were chosen for reasons such as access to resources or for defense.



The settlement we live in has a range of different human features and physical features. We can identify these by moving around the settlement or by using a map.



Key Vocabulary

Settlement: A place where people live.

Hamlet: A very small group of houses, smaller than a village.

Village: A small group of houses and buildings where people live, usually in the countryside.

Town: A place where more people live and work, larger than a village but smaller than a city.

City: A big place where lots of people live and work, with many buildings, roads, and services.

Rural: Areas in the countryside with lots of farms, trees, and not many buildings.

Urban: Areas in a city or town with lots of buildings, people, and cars.

Services: Things like schools, hospitals, and stores that help people in a community.

Transport: Ways of moving people or things from one place to another, like cars, buses, and trains.

Residential: Areas where people live, with houses and apartments.

Commercial: Areas where people buy and sell things, like stores and shopping centers.

Industrial: Areas with factories and places where things are made.

Leisure: Fun activities you do in your free time, like playing sports or going to the park.

Location: The place where something is.

Human feature: Things that people have built, like houses, roads, and bridges.

Physical feature: Natural things that are part of the land, like rivers, mountains, and forests.

Fieldwork: Studying things outside, like looking at plants, animals, and rocks.

Map: A picture that shows where things are, like roads, rivers, and buildings.

Key: A list that explains the symbols on a map.

Symbol: A small picture or shape that stands for something else on a map.

Plan view: A drawing of something as if you are looking straight down at it from above.