

SETTLEMENTS

Topic summary

The study of settlements seeks to understand why people live where they do. This topic will investigate what makes an area an attractive place to live and what may push people out of an area. Alongside this, there will be emphasis on the differences between urban and rural living and how settlements can become more sustainable.

A **settlement** is any form of human dwelling, from the smallest house to the largest city.



A **hamlet** is a very small settlement with just a group of houses.

A **village** is also small but may have houses, a primary school, a few shops, a Post Office and a village hall.

A **town** is larger than a village, with lots of houses, primary and secondary schools, as well as sometimes having a railway station and shopping centre.

A **city** is the largest type of settlement, containing lots of buildings and lots of people. They usually have hospitals, sports facilities, universities, shops, offices, many houses and a cathedral.

A **rural area** or countryside is a geographic area that is located outside of towns and cities.

An **urban area** is a settlement where the population is very high and has the features of a built environment, such as a town or city.

A **conurbation** is a region comprising a number of cities, large towns, and other urban areas that, through population growth and physical expansion, have merged to form one large developed area

Vocabulary

Settlement
Village
Hamlet
Town
City
Conurbation
Push factor
Pull factor
Urban
Rural
Sustainable

Weblinks

What is a settlement? <https://www.3dgeography.co.uk/settlement-geography>

Sustainable homes: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zsxsqk7/revision/2>

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A **push factor** is something that makes people want to leave a place or escape from a particular situation.

A **pull factor** refers to the factors which attract people to move to a certain area.

Sustainable cities, sometimes known as 'eco' towns, are **settlements** designed to have as little impact on the environment as possible.

One way for a settlement to be sustainable is by making houses more energy efficient. This can include installing loft insulation, solar panels and double glazing.

Eco-towns aim to reduce **carbon emissions**. They do this by:

- Having good public transport
- Using renewable energy such as wind and solar power
- Provide a range of services that are in walking distance.

Vocabulary

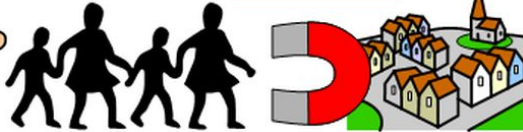
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Push Factors

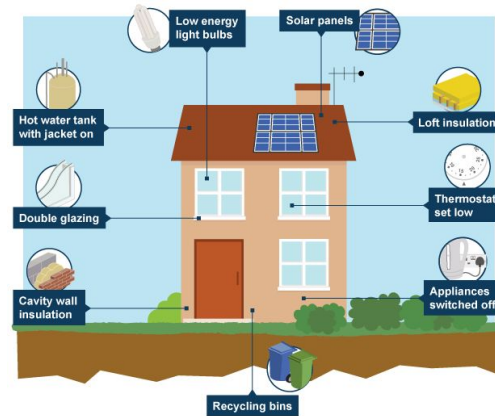


- few services
- lack of job opportunities
- unhappy life
- poor transport links
- natural disasters
- wars
- shortage of food

Pull Factors



- access to services
- better job opportunities
- more entertainment facilities
- better transport links
- improved living conditions
- hope for a better way of life
- family links



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