

Earthquakes Year 4 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
tectonic plates	The Earth's outer shell is made up of huge slabs of moving rock called tectonic plates.
aftershock	A shaking event that follows an earthquake. Sometimes it is more damaging than the original earthquake.
tsunami	A long, high wave usually caused by an earthquake in the ocean.
Richter	The Richter scale is a method of measuring the ferocity of an earthquake.
seismometer	A seismometer is an instrument that responds to ground motions, caused by earthquakes.
tremor	A small earthquake. We often experience these in the United Kingdom.
fault	Fractures in the Earth's crust where rocks on either side of the crack have slid past each other.
magnitude	If you talk about the magnitude of something, you are talking about its great size.
landslide	A landslide is a collapse of a mass of earth or rock from a mountain or cliff.
compression	A type of stress that squeezes rock, causing it to break or fold.



Sticky Knowledge about natural disasters

Earthquakes are usually caused when rock underground suddenly breaks along a fault. This sudden release of energy causes the seismic waves that make the ground shake.

A **tsunami** is a series of large waves generated by an abrupt movement on the ocean floor that can result from an earthquake, an underwater landslide, a volcanic eruption or - very rarely - a large meteorite strike.

Exciting Books

Key Knowledge

Know what a tectonic plate is.

Know the names of a number of the world's highest mountains.

Know where the equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn and the Greenwich Meridian are on a world map.

Know what is meant by the term tropics.

Know what causes an earthquake.

