

Natural Disasters!



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Chapter 1

EARTHQUAKES

WHAT ARE EARTHQUAKES?

Earthquakes are tremors in the ground when two tectonic plates (almost like puzzle pieces which cover the earth) slide, crash or separate. At the earth' s surface the vibrations from the plates turns in to shaking which causes disaster to the urban world. Many people get either killed, injured or end up homeless, these are often found on the news.

After an earthquake has struck, buildings have collapsed, roads overturned, drain pipes destroyed, electricity gone and nowhere to live

http://www.anglicannews.org/media/1463310/FlickrSIM_Nepal_Earthquake.jpg

Some buildings are designed to withstand this danger, but, even they collapse when earthquakes strike hard. Earthquakes can sometime trigger tsunamis (a massive wave of water which destroys lots) http://shoebat.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/BBC-Magazine_Mega-Tsunami-_Sketch31.jpg, landslides and occasionally volcanic eruptions. When pipes break and electricity fails it can also lead to fires and explosions. Scientists can measure earthquakes using a seismometer which has proved helpful on many occasions.

Some of the most famous famous earthquakes include the earthquake in Taiwan, 1999. This quake was the second deadliest to strike the country. It struck hard and left thousands killed or injured, and many more were left homeless and separated from the rest of their family.

Chapter 2

VOLCANOES

A volcano is one of the most fascinating features on earth, but it can also be one of the most deadly. <http://blogs-images.forbes.com/trevornace/files/2016/08/Sakurajima-eruption-volcano-1200x764.jpg?width=960> When a volcano erupts, hot molten rock called magma escapes through holes in the earth's crust. These eruptions can be traumatising, sometime a massive eruption cloud spreads for at least 1000 kilometres square. Any human or electric transport could never outrun this.

The layers of a volcano are; http://www.weatherwizkids.com/volcano_diagram.jpg Magma tends to move at a jogging pace meaning that most humans survive the eruption. If the lava shoots upwards and has an eruption cloud, things are not so easy to escape http://wonderopolis.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/volcano-smoking_shutterstock_66225952.jpg.

Most volcanoes are on tectonic plates. They are almost like mountains with lava trapped inside. When two tectonic plates collide and one side goes on top of the other it creates a mountain <http://i.huffpost.com/gen/1694659/images/o-PLATE-TECTONICS-CONTINENTS-facebook.jpg>. Sometimes lava manages to escape from the inner core, and when there is enough the pressure on the crust causes everything to disperse and the lava explodes from the earth's surface. This is a volcanic eruption.

Chapter 3

TSUNAMIS

Tsunamis are powerful ocean waves caused by underwater earthquakes. They sweep in and destroy or take away everything in its path. http://www.earthtimes.org/newsimage/japan-earthquake-economy_15311.jpg Most tsunamis happen in the Pacific Plate where every end of the fault line is in the water. The towns and cities closest to this fault line often have dangerous waves all the time anyway.

At first, tsunamis start as broad, fastening waves. Out in the open ocean, ships and boats do not tend to notice them. As the waves reach shallow water, they slow down and expand to an astonishing height of about 600ft. This leaves many dead, many injured, many homeless and some just alive.

<https://www.pinterest.com/sunnybest48/waves/>

If you are in danger of a tsunami, make sure you are on higher ground so that the wave can not reach you. Do not worry, though as tectonic plates are always moving, we just do not feel it. These dangers are not very common and it is nothing to worry about. Many people do survive this and you should learn about this at school. Even if there was a tsunami, modern day scientists would be able to detect slight movements in the sea days before.