

NATURAL DISASTERS



Timi A

Chapter 1

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What are earthquakes:

Earthquakes are a natural disaster that can happen when fault lines smash and collide together.

an earthquake is sudden violent shaking of the ground, typically causing great destruction, as a result of movements within the earth's crust.

Earthquakes may also be caused by the movement of lava beneath the surface of the earth during volcanic activity.

How do earthquakes occur:

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. When two blocks of rock or two plates are rubbing against each other, they stick a little. ... When the rocks break, the earthquake occurs.

Natural events such as volcanic eruptions and meteor impacts can cause earthquakes, but the majority of naturally-occurring earthquakes are triggered by movement of the earth's plates.

The earth's surface consists of 20 constantly moving plates. The pressure increase from shifting plates can cause the crust to break. This break allows stress to be released as energy, which moves through the earth in the form of waves (aka earthquakes).

Where are earthquakes most common:

In turkey,new Zealand,India and Colombia.

Earthquakes can also occur far from the edges of plates, along faults. Faults are cracks in the earth where sections of a plate (or two plates) are moving in different directions. Faults are caused by all that bumping and sliding the plates do. They are more common near the edges of the plates.

How do you measure earthquakes:

The Richter magnitude scale was developed in 1935 by Charles F. Richter of the California Institute of Technology as a mathematical device to compare the size of earthquakes. The magnitude of an earthquake is determined from the logarithm of the amplitude of waves recorded by seismographs.

What is a volcano:

A mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapour, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

<https://volcanocafe.files.wordpress.com/2014/04/volcanism-volcanoes2.png>

How do volcanoes occur:

The formation of volcanoes. Magma rises through cracks or weaknesses in the Earth's crust. When this pressure is released, eg as a result of plate movement, magma explodes to the surface causing a volcanic eruption. The lava from the eruption cools to form new crust.

Where are volcanoes most common:

Volcanoes are found along destructive (subducting) plate boundaries, constructive (divergent) plate boundaries and at hot spots in the earth's surface. The 'Ring of Fire' is a volcanic chain surrounding the Pacific Ocean.

What is the biggest volcano:

The largest volcano on earth is Mauna Loa on Hawai'i Big Island. It is a massive shield volcano constructed by countless lava flows. When measured from the base to the top, the pile of lavas measures more than 17,000 m (56,000 ft)!

The biggest volcano in the solar system is Olympus mons and it measures 600km wide and 21km high.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OowFvnlWI90>

What are tsunamis:

Earthquake-induced movement of the ocean floor most often generates tsunamis. If a major earthquake or landslide occurs close to shore, the first wave in a series could reach the beach in a few minutes, even before a warning is issued. Areas are at greater risk if they are less than 25 feet above sea level and within a mile of the shoreline. Drowning is the most common cause of death associated with a tsunami. Tsunami waves and the receding water are very destructive to structures in the run-up zone. Other hazards include flooding, contamination of drinking water, and fires from gas lines or ruptured tanks. All tsunamis are potentially dangerous, even though they may not damage every coastline they strike. A tsunami can strike anywhere along most of the U.S. coastline. The most destructive tsunamis have occurred along the coasts of California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii.

How do tsunamis occur:

How do tsunamis occur? Tsunami are actually waves caused by sudden movement of the ocean due to earthquakes, landslides on the sea floor, land slumping into the ocean, major volcanic eruptions or large meteorite impacts. ... The resulting wave moves outwards and away from this event.

Where are tsunamis most common:

Scientists estimate that almost three quarter of the world tsunamis occur in the Pacific

Ocean, where the megathrusts (subduction zones) are so common (Aleutian Islands, Alaska, Chile, Philippines, Japan etc).

Where is the biggest tsunami:

A tsunami with a record run-up height of 1720 feet occurred in Lituya Bay, Alaska. On the night of July 9, 1958, an earthquake along the Fairweather Fault in the Alaska Panhandle loosened about 40 million cubic yards (30.6 million cubic meters) of rock high above the northeastern shore of Lituya Bay.

Thank you for reading my natural disaster fact file .

<http://unitedrescues.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/thank-you-1400x800-c-default.gif>

Volcanoes

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