



NATURAL DISASTERS

EARTHQUAKES



Earthquakes can come in all different sizes in any place at any time. Some can be very destructive and some can only cause a small amount of damage. During an earthquake, huge amounts of rock, called tectonic plates, shift beneath the Earth's surface making the ground shake. The shifting and shaking sends out shock waves that can crack, alter or deform land. Earthquakes occur frequently but aren't usually severe enough to cause widespread damage. Usually, earthquakes are measured by sensitive instruments called seismographs determining how powerful they are whilst others are felt as small tremors. In places where earthquakes can be very bad, like cities in Japan, buildings have a special foundation and have plastic windows to prevent even more harm.

TSUNAMIS

Tsunamis are a series of waves formed in the ocean that rushes onto land that destroy houses, villages and sometimes even cities. The first sign of a Tsunami is when the water suddenly rushes back into the far sea and the wet sand is left bare. Then, after that, all of the water starts to aggressively charge back in a tremendously tall wave wiping out the items in its way. This is all caused by a displacement in the ocean and sometimes they can be an after effect of an earthquake. A very tragic one occurred on Boxing day (26th of December) 2004 killing 227,898 people living near to the Indian Ocean.



CYCLONES, TYPHOONS AND HURRICANES

Cyclones, Typhoons and Hurricanes are actually the same natural disasters. They are only named differently because they happen in different continents. These are formed when a thunder storm happens that is made from a particular combination of winds. If the air rises in the thunderstorm, the wind starts to spin creating a deadly spiral drifting through the air. The centre of the spiral is called the eye. When it travels over sea, water is forced into it and ends up in the middle. Their strength is currently being measured on a scale called Enhanced Fujita which became operational on the 1st of February 2007. They are given names that alternate from girls to boys in alphabetical order. Such as: Hurricane Katrina, Cyclone Nivar and Typhoon Hagibis.



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https://youtu.be/J2_Bk4dVS0

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. On what scale are Hurricanes, Cyclones and Typhoons measured on?
2. What is the first sign of a tsunami?
3. What are the huge amounts of rock that shifts causing an earthquake called?
4. What can a Tsunami be an after effect of?
5. How are earthquakes measured?