

Key Vocabulary

Earthquake – the shaking of the Earth's crust caused by rock movement.

Tsunami – a long, high sea wave caused by an earthquake.

Epicentre – the point on the earth's surface where the damage from an EQ is felt most.

Focus – the point at which the earthquake begins.

Seismic Waves – wave of energy given out in an earthquake.

Tectonic Plates – a massive slab of oceanic rock.

Plate Boundary – the point at which 2 tectonic plates meet.

Aftershock – a smaller earthquake following the larger earthquake.

The Richter and Mercalli scales – numerical scales to measure the magnitude of an earthquake.

Volcano – a mountain or hill that has a crater or vent through which lava erupts from the Earth's crust.

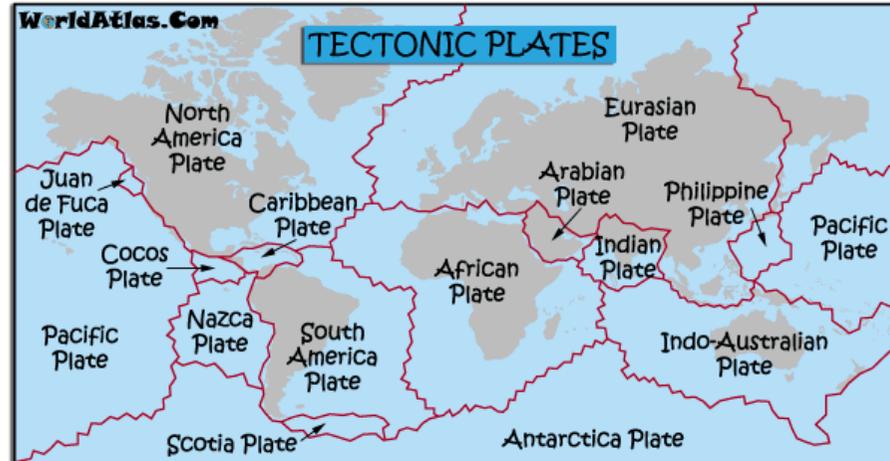
Magma – hot fluid that lava or other igneous rock is formed from when cooled.

Pyroclastic Flow – a dense destructive flow of lava travelling from a volcano.

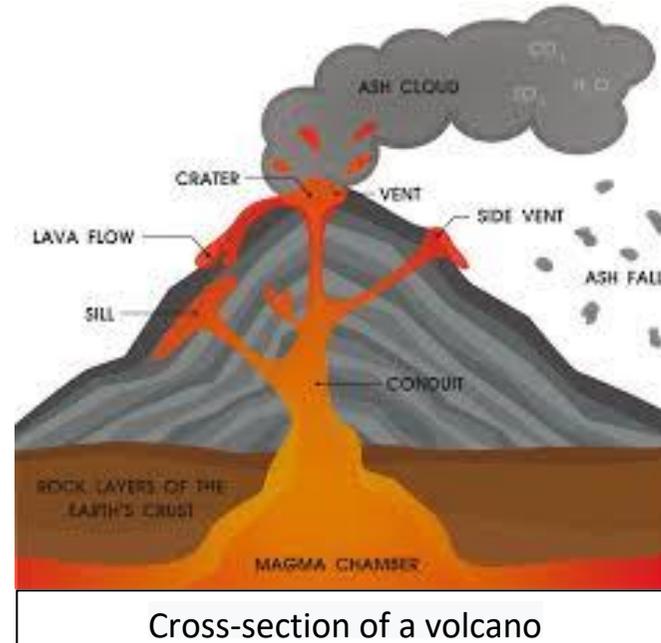
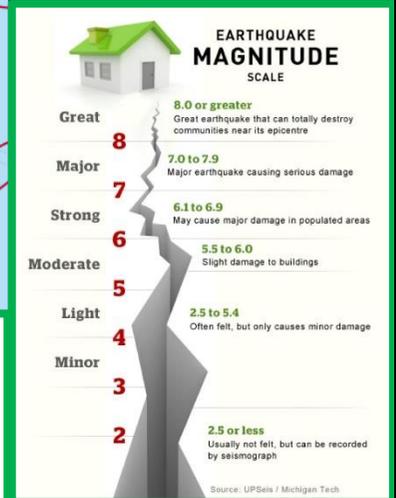
Vent – opening in the Earth's crust which lava is ejected.

Crater – is a circular depression around a volcanic vent.

The 3 P's – *Predict, Protect and Prepare*. Governments around the world use the 3 P's to ensure preservation of life during any natural disasters.



The tectonic plates of the world were mapped in the second half of the 20th century. The location where two plates meet is called a *plate boundary* and these boundaries are commonly associated with geological events such as earthquakes and the creation of topographic features such as mountains, volcanoes, mid-ocean ridges, and oceanic trenches.



Cross-section of a volcano

The power of earthquakes is measured in magnitudes using a seismograph. The greater the number the greater the power of the earthquake. The most common measurement scale used is the Richter scale.

Volcano and Earthquake themed books

The Earthquake Challenge by Bear Grylls

Escape from Pompeii by Christina Balit

A Pebble in my Pocket: A History of our Earth by Meredith Hooper & Chris Coody

Stone Girl Bone Girl by Laurence Anholt

Gopher to the Rescue! A volcano recovery story by Terry Catusus Jennings