

Understanding Earthquakes

Learning objective: To explain the causes and effects of earthquakes and describe the steps to take during an earthquake.

Answer the questions in full sentences, where possible. Use your knowledge of earthquakes to complete the tasks.

Word bank: tectonic · epicentre · shaking · liquefaction · aftershock · emergency

1. Why do earthquakes happen? (2 marks)

2. What is the term for the point on the Earth's surface directly above the epicentre of an earthquake? (2 marks)

3. Describe what might happen to a building if it is hit by a strong aftershock. (3 marks)

4. What should you do if you are in a room during an earthquake? (2 marks)

5. Why is it essential to practice earthquake drills in school? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of how you would stay safe during an earthquake. Include a simple diagram of a building with a person inside.



Extension challenge: Research and write a short paragraph about a region known for its earthquake activity. What causes these earthquakes, and how do people prepare for them?