

Understanding Earthquakes

Learning objective: To understand the concept of earthquakes, causes, and effects on the environment.

Complete the matching pairs activity to demonstrate your knowledge of earthquakes. Match the words on the left with their correct definitions on the right.

Word bank: Tectonic Plates · Fault Line · Seismic Waves · Epicentre · Liquefaction

1. What is the zone on the Earth's surface where the earthquake is felt the most strongly? (1 mark)

2. What is the movement of the Earth's surface that can cause earthquakes? (2 marks)

3. What is the effect on soil and sand during an earthquake? (1 mark)

4. What are the ripples that travel through the Earth's surface during an earthquake called? (1 mark)

5. What is the area on the Earth's surface directly above the point where the earthquake occurs? (1 mark)

6. What can happen when the ground shakes and water becomes unstable during an earthquake? (1 mark)

7. Why do earthquakes happen? (3 marks)

8. What are the words that describe the movement of the Earth's crust? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw and label a diagram of the Earth's crust, including fault lines and tectonic plates.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a geologist studying an earthquake. Write a short report on what you have discovered and what you think caused the earthquake.