

Earthquake Investigator: Field Report

Learning objective: To understand the causes and effects of earthquakes and how they shape the Earth's surface.

Join Finn the dolphin on a geography mission! Use your knowledge of tectonic plates and natural disasters to fill in this report. You can use your school textbook or research notes to help you explain how the Earth moves and what impact it has on the environment.

Word bank: Tectonic plates · Epicentre · Seismograph · Crust · Tremor · Richter scale · Fault line · Lithosphere

1. What happens beneath the Earth's surface to cause an earthquake? Explain using the term 'tectonic plates'. (3 marks)

2. What is a 'fault line' and why does it play an important role in where earthquakes occur? (2 marks)

3. Describe what a seismograph does. How do scientists use this tool to measure the strength of a tremor? (3 marks)

4. List two ways that an earthquake can change the physical landscape of an area. (2 marks)

5. If you were designing a building in a place where earthquakes are common, what special features would you include to make it safer? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a historical earthquake event. Write a short paragraph explaining where and when it happened, and how the local community recovered afterwards.