

Earthquakes: Shaking the Earth with Finn the Dolphin

Hold on tight as Finn the Dolphin explores the moving plates beneath our feet!

- The Earth's outer layer, called the crust, is broken into giant puzzle pieces known as tectonic plates that are constantly moving.
- When these tectonic plates push against each other or slide past one another, energy builds up and is suddenly released.
- The exact place on the surface directly above where the earthquake begins is called the epicentre.
- Seismic waves are the vibrations that travel through the ground during an earthquake, causing the shaking we feel.
- Scientists measure the strength of an earthquake using a tool called the Richter scale, which helps us understand how much energy was released.

Did you know? Did you know? Even though we cannot feel them, the Earth experiences thousands of tiny earthquakes every single day! Most are so small that only sensitive scientific equipment can detect them.

Key vocabulary: Tectonic plates · Epicentre · Seismic waves · Crust · Fault line · Richter scale