Finn’s Earth Science Report: What is an Earthquake?

Learning objective: To describe what happens during an earthquake using simple geographical vocabulary.

Use this writing frame to help Finn the dolphin tell his friends about how the Earth moves. Fill in the boxes to complete your report.

Finn the dolphin has been learning about the Earth and he wants to explain what happens when the ground moves.

Word bank: ground · shake · rocks · plates · rumble · because · suddenly · deep underground

1. The Big Shake: Deep under our feet, the ground is made of large pieces of rock. What happens when these pieces move? Start your sentence with: When the rocks move, the ground... (2 marks)

2. What does it feel like?: Describe how it might feel if you were standing outside during an earthquake. Start your sentence with: It feels like... (2 marks)

3. Staying Safe: If the ground starts to shake, what is the best thing to do? Start your sentence with: To stay safe, I should... (2 marks)

4. Sound Effects: What sound does the Earth make when it shakes? Start your sentence with: The Earth makes a loud... (2 marks)

5. My Conclusion: Why is it important to learn about earthquakes? Start your sentence with: Learning about the Earth is important because... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you draw a picture of what happens to a tall building when the ground shakes? Label your picture with two words from the word bank.