Finn’s Earth Explorer Fact-File: Understanding Earthquakes

Learning objective: To identify and describe the physical process of an earthquake using geographical vocabulary.

Help Finn the dolphin learn about the ground beneath our feet! Read your class information sheet carefully, then use this fact-file to explain what happens during an earthquake. Remember to use your best handwriting and check your spellings.

Word bank: tremble · surface · plates · shaking · crust · Earth

1. What is an earthquake? Describe what happens to the ground in your own words. (2 marks)

2. What are the giant pieces of the Earth's crust called that move against each other? (1 mark)

3. Finn wants to know: what might happen to buildings or trees when the ground shakes? (2 marks)

4. Why do you think the Earth's surface moves? Write down one reason you have learned. (2 marks)

5. If you were an explorer like Finn, what is one question you would ask a geologist about earthquakes? (1 mark)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter. Write one sentence about a time the Earth moved and how people stayed safe.