Earthquakes: Shaking the Earth with Finn the Dolphin

Hold onto your fins! Let’s dive deep into the science of our moving Earth!

- **The Earth's outer layer, called the crust, is broken into large pieces known as tectonic plates that slowly drift around.**
- **When two tectonic plates get stuck and then suddenly slip, they release energy that makes the ground shake, which we call an earthquake.**
- **A fault line is a break or crack in the Earth's crust where the plates meet and move past one another.**
- **Scientists use a special tool called a seismograph to measure and record how strong the shaking of the ground is.**
- **The epicentre is the point on the surface of the Earth directly above where the earthquake first started underground.**

Did you know? Did you know? Finn the dolphin has noticed that the Earth is always moving, even if we cannot feel it! The Earth's outer shell is made of giant pieces like a massive jigsaw puzzle. These pieces are constantly bumping and sliding against each other deep underground.

Key vocabulary: Tectonic plates · Crust · Fault line · Seismograph · Epicentre · Tremor