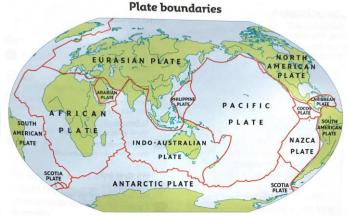


Year 3 Natural Disasters







The Earth's crust is broken into great blocks called plates. These move very slowly in different directions.

Sticky Knowledge

Earthquakes

- The tectonic plates have edges and sometimes the edges, which are called **fault lines**, can get stuck, but the **plates** keep moving.
- Pressure slowly starts to build up where edges are stuck and, once the pressure gets strong enough, the plates will suddenly move causing an earthquake.
- > Volcanoes are caused when magma rises to the surface of the Earth, which causes bubbles of gas to appear in it. This gas can cause pressure to build up beneath the surface, and it eventually explodes (erupts).
- > A tsunami is a series of large waves generated by an abrupt movement on the ocean floor that can result from an earthquake, an underwater landslide, a volcanic eruption or- very rarely- a large meteorite strike.



Iceland 2010 When a volcano erupted it sent a cloud of ash high in the air. Flights were cancelled across northern Europe.



Japan 2011 A powerful earthquake under the sea near Japan set off a tsunami.



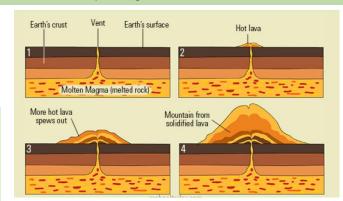
Nepal 2015 A powerful earthquake destroyed towns and villages across Nepal, killing thousands of people.

Volcanoes

- * A volcano is a very deep hole in the Earth's top layer that can let out hot gasses, ash and lava. Many volcanoes are also mountains.
- * Volcanoes have long vents that go all the way down through the Earth's crust, to magma in between the crust and the mantle. It's so hot there that rocks **melt** into liquid. This is called magma,

which travels up through volcanoes and flows out as lava.

Layers of the Earth



Key Vocabulary	
hemisphere	Formed by dividing the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres at the equator.
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and South Pole.
country	An area of land that is controlled by its own government.
eruption	An explosion of steam or lava from a volcano.
aftershock	A shaking event that follows an earthquake. Sometimes more damaging than the original earthquake.
tsunami	A long, high wave usually caused by an earthquake in the ocean.
magma	Hot fluid or semi-fluid material below or within the Earth's crust from which lava is formed.
lava	Hot, molten or semi-fluid rock erupted from a volcano, or solid rock, resulting from cooling of this.
dormant	A dormant volcano is an active volcano that has not erupted in the past 10,000 years.
active	An active volcano has erupted recently or is expected to erupt quite soon.
fault	Fractures in the Earth's crust where rocks on either side of the crack have slid past each other.
magnitude	If you talk about the magnitude of something, you are talking about its great size.
landslide	A landslide is a collapse of a mass of earth or rock from a mountain or cliff.

The Earth's outer shell is made up of huge

slabs of moving rock called tectonic plates.

tectonic

plates