

UKS2 Geography: Natural Disasters



To produce an information leaflet to inform/produce a mini documentary.

What I need to know...

- How the Earth is structured
- How volcanoes are formed
- The causes and effects of volcanic eruptions
- What an earthquake is and why they occur
- Name some of the social and economic effects of natural disasters

Structure of the Earth

Crust - Thin outer layer. Hard rock. 10km-90km thick.
Mantle - Extremely hot rock that flows. 3000km thick.
Outer Core - Iron and nickel. Mostly liquid with some rocky parts. 4000 °C.
Inner Core - Iron and nickel. Hottest layer at over 5000 °C.



Vocabulary

Tectonic plates	The crust (together with the upper layer of the mantle) is made up of different pieces, called tectonic plates. These plates fit together like a jigsaw and are moving at a rate of a few centimetres a year, in different directions and at different speeds.
Richter scale	The Richter magnitude scale is a scale of numbers used to measure the size of earthquakes.
Pyroclastic flow	Fast moving clouds of hot ash, gas and rock.
Tremor	An involuntary quivering or vibratory movement.
Physical characteristics	Physical characteristics include the natural environment, such as landforms, elevation, water features, climate, soil, natural vegetation, and animal life.

Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Volcanoes

There are 3 types of volcano: Active, Dormant, Extinct

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's surface from which hot magma escapes.

Volcanoes are located along tectonic plates; there are a significant proportion of volcanoes in and around the Pacific Ocean.

Volcanoes are formed when tectonic plates move towards each other and one slides under the other.

Earthquakes

Earthquakes are sudden shaking of the ground caused by the passage of seismic waves through Earth's rocks.

Seismic waves are produced when some form of energy stored in Earth's crust is suddenly released.

This usually occurs when masses of rock (tectonic plates) are straining against one another and suddenly fracture and slip.

Impacts and Effects

Social impacts	Economic impacts	Environmental impacts
Death and injury Homes destroyed Transport and communications links disrupted Water supplies contaminated Disease may spread People require rehousing/relocating.	Shops and businesses destroyed Damage to transport and communication makes trade difficult Lost incomes Cost of rebuilding settlement is high	Landscape destroyed Fires spread and cause explosions Damage to woodland areas Landslides Tsunamis in coastal areas Natural and human landmarks are lost