# Caroline Haslett Primary School - Geography

| Summer Term | Year 6 | Earthquakes |
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## Prior Knowledge

The Earth is made of different layers: crust, inner core, mantle and outer core.

Tectonic plates are moving pieces of the Earth's crust that 'float' on the magma underneath.

Earthquakes can occur at conservative, constructive or destructive plate boundaries.

## New Knowledge

When tectonic plates get stuck, pressure builds up. Eventually, the pressure is released in waves of energy, which feels like the ground is shaking.

The strength of the shaking is measured on the Richter scale.

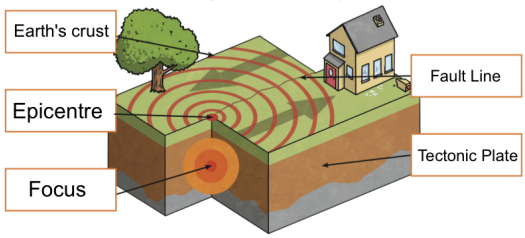
On the Richter scale, each number means ten times the number before it, so am earthquake measuring 4 is ten times worse than one measuring 3.

Earthquakes cause lots of damage and some kill people.

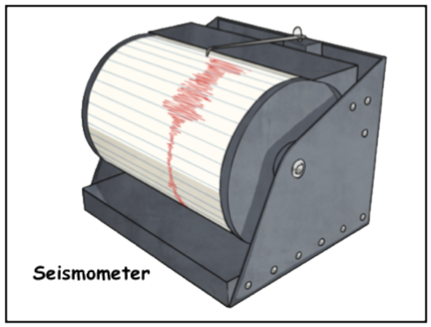
## Activities

- Identify why earthquakes occur and how they are measured.
- Research earthquakes around the world and the impact they had on local communities.

## Vocabulary




- **Aftershocks** - smaller earthquakes that occur after the first one.
- **Epicentre** - the place on the ground directly above where an earthquake starts.
- **Focus** - the exact place underground where an earthquake happens.
- **Richter scale** - a scale of numbers used to show the power of earthquakes.
- **Seismometer** - a machine that records the strength of an earthquake.




## Skills and National Curriculum Objectives

- Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including …volcanoes.
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.