Long Sutton County Primary School - Knowledge Organiser (Humanities)

Year: 4 Term: Summer Term 2 Topic: 'Why do the biggest earthquakes not always cause the most damage?'

What should I already know?

I already know:

⇒ The names and locations of the continents of the world and the location of countries that we have studied previously.

⇒ The names of the major oceans of the world and be able to name some countries that they border.

⇒ That areas of land can change over time and that these changes can be natural and/or caused by humans.

Interesting Facts

⇒ The Earth is made up of three layers: the core at the centre, which is mainly metal, the mantle, which is mainly rock and the crust, which is the part we see.

⇒ Earthquakes occur along faults, the areas where tectonic plates meet.

⇒ About 80 percent of earthquakes occur along the rim of the Pacific Ocean—this is called the 'Ring of Fire'.

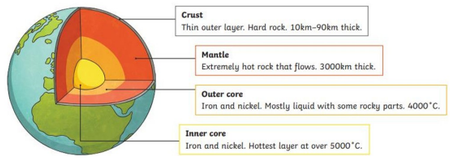
⇒ Earthquakes can happen anytime or anywhere—even if you don't live near a fault. So it's a good idea to prepare.

⇒ Most earthquakes last only 10 to 30 seconds.

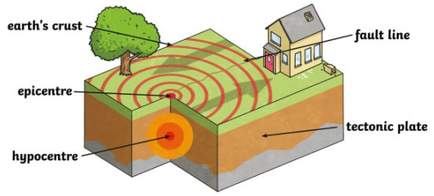
⇒ The strongest ever earthquake happened in Chile on 22nd May, 1960. It measured 9.5 on the Moment magnitude scale which is very, very high. The earthquake lasted for 10 whole minutes.

⇒ Earthquakes can cause huge waves in the ocean called 'tsunamis'.

Diagrams/Timelines/Pictures



A diagram to show the different layers of the Earth.



A cross-section of an earthquake.

Key Vocabulary

earthquake	An earthquake is a sudden, violent shaking of the ground as a result of movements in the Earth's crust or volcanic activity.
tremors	A small movement of the Earth's crust before an earthquake.
aftershocks	Tremors that occur after an earthquake.
Tectonic Plates	Different, very large sections of rock that make up the Earth's crust.
magnitude	The power of an earthquake.
Richter Scale	A scale from 1 to 10 that is used to grade an earthquake's magnitude.
seismic waves	Waves of energy released from the epicentre.
Epicentre	The exact place on the Earth's surface where an earthquake is strongest.

Recommended Books and Websites

Earthquakes: National Geographics Kids

BBC Bitesize: Explore Earthquakes

Everything: Volcanoes and Earthquakes

Look Inside Volcanoes and Earthquakes

What else could I do to help me learn?

⇒ Create a model of the Earth's structure using different materials.

⇒ Research the 'Ring of Fire' - Where is it? Why is it called the 'Ring of Fire'?

⇒ Research the top 10 largest earthquakes ever recorded. Where did they occur? Were they all in the same country and continent?