Year 5 Geography

Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Lesson 3 – Tectonic Plates

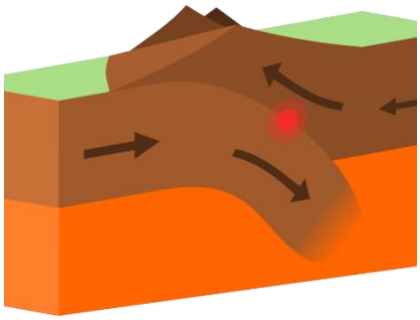
Today you will learn about the cause of earthquakes.

By the end of the lesson you will:
*know that earthquakes are caused by movements of tectonic plates, which are on the surface of the Earth.
*understand that there are three different movements of earthquakes.
*need to identify and explain the different movements and the effects these have.

What is an earthquake?

Earthquakes are the shaking, rolling or sudden shock of the earth's surface. They are the Earth's natural means of releasing stress. More than a million earthquakes rattle the world each year. Earthquakes can be felt over large areas although they usually last less than one minute. Earthquakes cannot be predicted - although scientists are working on it!

What causes an earthquake?



Watch this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7ho6z32yyo

As we learnt last lesson, there are tectonic plates along the surface of the Earth which move continuously and slowly past each other.
When the plates squeeze or stretch, huge rocks form at their edges and the rocks shift with great force, causing an earthquake.
Think of it this way: Imagine holding a pencil horizontally. If you were to apply a force to both ends of the pencil by pushing down on them, you would see the pencil bend. After enough force was applied, the pencil would break in the middle, releasing the stress you have put on it.

What damage does an earthquake cause?

Here are some earthquake safety instructions:

There are **three** types of earthquake movements. Read the information below and follow the links to find more information.

Slip stream quake	Normal quake	Thrust quake
A strike slip fault is a fault zone where two blocks of land move horizontally rather than vertically along a fault plane. These faults can form between two small blocks of land or crustal plates. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrrLJ4vXHCs	These faults pull apart, creating space. They can create a special type of valley called a rift valley. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tJDnfT1pqhQ	These faults create mountains. They happen when two tectonic plates slide on top of each other and push themselves up. https://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/animations/thrustfault.php

Activity:

Look at the three types of earthquake movements below. Explain how they move. Write your information in paragraphs.