

Natural Disasters

Physical Features	
magma	Formed when temperatures within the Earth's crust or mantle are very hot and when pressure in places within those layers decreases.
lava	Is hot, liquified rock that flows from a volcano or other opening in the surface of the Earth.
Coastal erosion	When beaches or dunes are removed by waves, tidal currents or drainage. Waves caused by storms and winds cause coastal erosion.
Oceanic plates	Is a tectonic plate at the bottom of the ocean which is made up of mafic rock, rich in iron and magnesium.
flood	Is an overflow of water that submerges land that is usually dry.

Key Places	
Mount Vesuvius	An active volcano in southern Italy. The eruption took place in 79 AD. Thousands of people died when lava, ashes and mud buried the cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Stabiae.
Tohoku	An earthquake and tsunami in Japan which took place on the 11th March 2011 when a magnitude 9 earthquake shook northeastern Japan, unleashing a savage tsunami. Most damage took place in Sukuiso, Japan.

Impact of destruction	
The impact of flooding includes loss of human life, damage to property, destruction of crops, loss of livestock and deterioration of health conditions owing to waterborne diseases.	
Volcanic eruptions cause the deterioration of water quality, fewer periods of rain, crop damage and the destruction of vegetation. During volcanic eruptions and their immediate aftermath, increased deaths occur as a result of respiratory diseases.	
The impact of an earthquake includes destroyed land and vegetation, destroyed homes and collapsed buildings.	
Tsunami not only destroy human life, but have a devastating effect on insects, animals, plants, and natural resources. A tsunami changes the landscape. It uproots trees and plants and destroys animal habitats such as nesting sites for birds.	



Key Vocabulary	
tsunami	A large ocean wave that occurs from an underwater earthquake or volcanic eruption.
volcano	Occurs when pressure builds up inside the earth.
hurricane	A large rotating storm with high speeds winds that form over warm waters in tropical areas.
earthquake	A sudden violent shaking of the ground, typically causing great destruction.
eruption	A sudden explosion of ash, rocks and lava.
Tectonic plates	Broken pieces made of the Earth's crust or lithosphere.
landslide	Movement of a mass of rock, debris or earth down a slope due to gravity.

