

EARTHQUAKES - KEY

1. What can cause earthquakes? Give a few examples. **sudden movement of plates; volcanoes that suddenly erupt; meteorites that hit the earth; underground explosions; buildings that collapse**
2. What do contents move on? **plates**
3. What happens when plates come together? **magma, lava comes out of the inner part of the Earth; rock is pushed upwards**
4. Why do many earthquakes happen at the bottom of the ocean? **the Earth's crust is thinner there**
5. Why don't we hear about most of the earthquakes? **most of them are weak or happen where few people live; some take place on the sea floor**
6. What is the *Ring of Fire*? Where is it located? **volcanic activity and earthquakes around the Pacific Ocean**
7. How many earthquakes happen in Japan every year? **2000**
8. Describes the two types of waves that earthquakes produce. **body waves are fast waves that move through the inner part of the Earth; surface waves move slower but do more damage**
9. How do humans cause earthquakes? **man-made lakes are filled with water; test of atomic bombs**
10. With which instruments are earthquakes measured and registered? **seismograph**
11. What do the terms hypocenter and epicenter mean? **hypocenter is where the earthquake actually takes place; epicenter is the place on the surface exactly above the hypocenter**
12. What is the Richter scale? **it is used to measure how strong earthquakes are**
13. How strong was the largest earthquake ever measured? **9.5**
14. What happened in San Francisco in 1906? **big earthquake destroyed most parts of the city; many houses caught fire because they were made of wood**
15. What are tsunamis? **giant waves that move toward the coast after an underwater earthquake**
16. What other problems can earthquakes lead to ? **destruction of water supplies; diseases**
17. In which ways can we protect ourselves better today than 50 years ago? **scientists can better predict where earthquakes may happen; buildings and houses use steel and concrete in earthquake zones**