



Key Questions?

Where are there volcanoes? Do we have them in the UK?
Why/not? What happened in Pompeii? How are earthquakes/volcanoes/tsunamis linked? How do tornadoes start? How are they different to hurricanes?

Links to prior learning:



Key Vocabulary

Tectonic Plates	The earth's crust is made up of large areas called tectonic plates that join together.
Erupts	To suddenly burst out causing lava to explode out of the earth's surface.
Magma	Extremely hot, liquid rock.
Cumulonimbus cloud	Large thunderstorm clouds.
Continent	A large area of land usually made of many countries.
Country	A nation that has people and a government (like the UK or France).
City	A large town like London or Birmingham.
Equator	An imaginary line that runs around the middle of the Earth.
Hemisphere	Northern part, Southern part, Eastern part and Western part of the planet.

Volcanoes

Volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth's crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it. Active volcanoes have erupted in the last 10,000 years. Dormant volcanoes haven't erupted in the last 10,000 years but may erupt again. Extinct volcanoes aren't expected to erupt again.

Key Knowledge

Earthquakes

Earthquakes are caused when the earth's tectonic plates suddenly move. Most earthquakes occur near the tectonic plate boundaries. Earthquakes can cause lots of damage to roads, buildings and property.

Tsunamis

A tsunami is a giant wave caused by a huge earthquake under the ocean. The earthquake causes a large amount of water to be displaced very quickly causing a series of waves. As the waves travel through shallower water near land, they get bigger and bigger. The wave crashes onto the land causing devastation to buildings and sometimes even lives.

Tornadoes

A tornado is a swirling funnel of air that forms when warm air rises from near the ground into big cumulonimbus clouds. There can be thunder and lightning at the same time. You can see tornadoes due to the dust and water droplets caught in the clouds. Storm chasers are film-makers and scientists who head towards the storms. They film the tornadoes and collect data about them. Most tornadoes happen in Tornado Alley in America – more than 500 each year. Tornadoes can happen in the UK but only around 30 per year.

Artefacts

