



Key Knowledge

On 22nd February 2011 in Christchurch New Zealand, a major earthquake occurred that caused huge devastation.

Earthquakes in New Zealand are a regular occurrence. Their magnitudes and epicentres vary.

Earthquakes occur on the plate boundaries and can occur all over the world.

Earthquakes can cause death and damage to property. They happen under cities, below the ocean and at any time of the day.

Volcanic eruptions are linked to earthquakes and plate boundaries..

Key Vocabulary and Phrases

Eruption	The sudden or violent ejection of matter, such as molten rock, volcanic ash, or steam.
Earthquake	A sudden violent shaking of the ground, typically causing destruction, due to movements within the earth's crust or volcanic action.
Epicentre	The point on the earth's surface directly above the centre (focus) of an earthquake.
Magnitude	The size of the earthquake.
Richter Scale	This is a measure of the strength of earthquakes and was developed by Charles Francis Richter.

