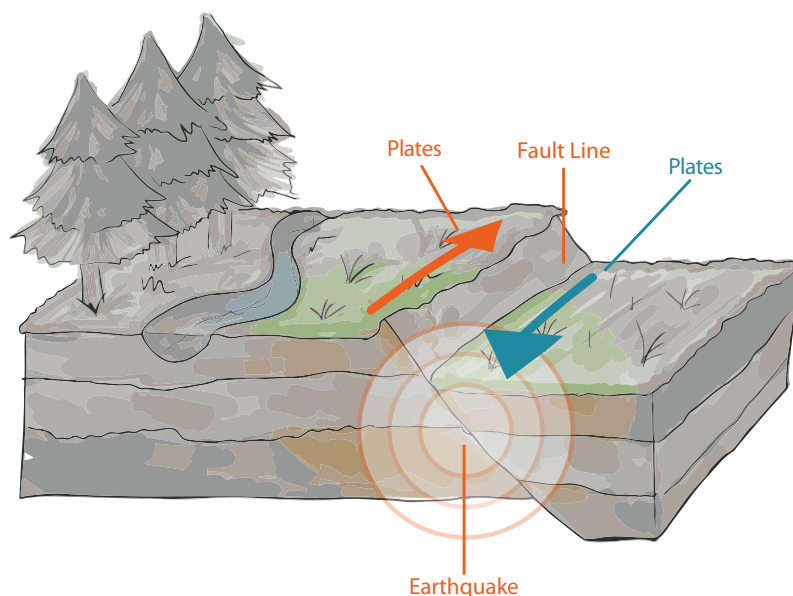


Earthquakes: Text Features

Directions: Read only the text features (i.e., sidebars, diagram, and bold words). Then, answer the questions.

Earthquakes

Have you ever felt an earthquake? During an earthquake, the earth feels like it is shaking. An **earthquake** is a vibration that travels through the earth's crust. The most common cause of earthquakes are the earth's **tectonic plates**. These plates are in constant motion and when they bump into one another it can cause underground vibrations. The place where the plates bump each other is called the **fault line**. Earthquakes are common along the Pacific Ocean.



Historical Earthquakes

1811

Madrid Missouri Quakes
These earthquakes happened along the Mississippi river, lasting for months. These quakes actually caused the river to run backwards.

1906

San Francisco Earthquake
One of the most famous US disasters, the fires started by this earthquake actually did more damage than the quake itself.

1970

Ancash Earthquake
One of the biggest earthquakes ever recorded, the Ancash earthquake caused landslides, destroyed homes and took away many lives. This quake hit 7.8 on the Richter scale.

Safety Tips

- 1 Stay away from windows.
- 2 Stay indoors.
- 3 Take cover under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- 4 Secure shelves and heavy objects against the wall.
- 5 Plan an earthquake preparation kit with your family.
- 6 If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- 7 Stay away from electrical wires.

Name _____

Date _____

1. What information do you get from the text features? (i.e., bold words, sidebars, diagram)

2. Read the article. How do the text features help you understand the article?

3. What information do you get from the text features that is not included in the article?

4. What earthquake happened in 1906?

5. What is the first safety tip you should follow during an earthquake?
