



## Summary

**Earth's Power: Tsunamis** describes how these dangerous waves occur. It addresses some devastating tsunamis of the past and how earthquakes and volcanoes are related to them.

Vocabulary		Comprehension Strategy	Genre Study	Text Features		
buoys	displacement	Determining main idea and supporting details, Using graphic features	Text structure: Description/list structure, Embedded definitions, Variety of sentence structure, Use of strong verbs and specificity	table of contents	headings	
earthquakes	landslides			Description/list structure,	photographs	diagrams
magma	meteorite			Embedded definitions,	charts	captions
seismographs	seismologists			Variety of sentence structure, Use of strong verbs and specificity	glossary	text boxes
				bold glossary words	index	

### Standards: Geography and Science

- Understands how physical systems affect human systems
- Knows natural hazards that occur in the physical environment
- Knows the physical processes that shape patterns on Earth's surface
- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry

Kendall, J. S., & Marzano, R. J. (2004). *Content knowledge: A compendium of standards and benchmarks for K-12 education*. Aurora, CO: Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL). Online database: [www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks/](http://www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks/)

### Discussion Prompts Prior to Independent Reading

#### Vocabulary Building and Background Knowledge:

Read the title as students look at the cover. Ask students to talk about what they observe on the cover and what they already know about tsunamis. Scaffold a discussion that builds on the background knowledge of students. Introduce students to the vocabulary words by having them look at the glossary on page 30.

Discussion questions:

- Read the definition for *earthquakes*. What happens during an *earthquake*?
- What is a *seismologist*? What kind equipment do they use?

#### Genre Study and Text Features:

State that **Earth's Power: Tsunamis** is an informational text written as a description of tsunamis, their effects on the land

they hit, and how they form. Highlight genre characteristics and text features that will support students in reading the text.

Highlight prompts:

- Look at the picture on page 14. Then read the text on page 15. Does the picture help explain the text or help you visualize what the text is saying?
- Look at the captions under each of the photographs in the book. Why do you think authors write captions? Find one that describes what is happening in the picture. Find another that supports what the text on the page near it says.

#### Reading the Book:

Have students read the book independently or with a partner.

### Comprehension Questions

After students have completed reading **Earth's Power: Tsunamis** gather students together for a discussion based on the questions below or assign students to answer the questions independently or with a partner.

- How are volcanoes and earthquakes related to tsunamis?
- How could you express a tsunami in a drawing?
- What do you think the value of a tsunami prediction and warning is?

### BLM: Extension Activity

Students may use the next page to sequence the series of events involved in a tsunami's formation and aftermath.



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sequence Ladder**

Directions: Complete the sequence ladder. Use the text to help sequence the steps a tsunami goes through from its first cause (bottom of ladder) to the devastation (top of the ladder) that happens near the coast.

Devastation:		
Cause:		