

FACTS ABOUT EARTHQUAKES



Below is a glossary that can help to explain some of the words children might hear leading up to, during or after an earthquake.

WHAT ARE THE TYPES OF EARTHQUAKES?

Foreshocks: This describes smaller earthquakes that occur before a larger earthquake.

Mainshock: The mainshock is the actual earthquake.

Aftershocks: The aftershocks are the smaller earthquakes that sometimes follow the main earthquake.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MAGNITUDE AND THE INTENSITY OF AN EARTHQUAKE?

Magnitude: This is the measurement of the earthquake's size which stays the same no matter where you are experiencing it.

Intensity: This is the measure of the shaking created by the earthquake which changes according to one's location.

The Richter scale: This measures the intensity of an earthquake.

EARTHQUAKE LANGUAGE

- **Tectonic plates:** These are the features and movements of the earth surface from the past to the present.
- **Faults:** A fault is a break or fracture between two rocks.
- **Hypocenter:** The hypocenter is where the earthquake starts below the earth.
- **Epicenter:** The epicenter is the point directly above the hypocenter on the surface of the earth.

REFERENCES:

- <https://www.livescience.com/37706-what-is-plate-tectonics.htm>
- https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-a-fault-and-what-are-different-types?qt-news_science_products=0#qt-news_science_products



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