

NATURAL DISASTERS

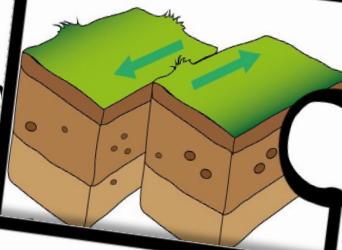
FREE Puzzle Center

hurricane



an intense
circular storm
that forms
out over the
ocean

earthquake



a sudden
shaking or
movement of
a portion of
the Earth

tornado



a vortex
wind
funnel
from

volcanic
eruption



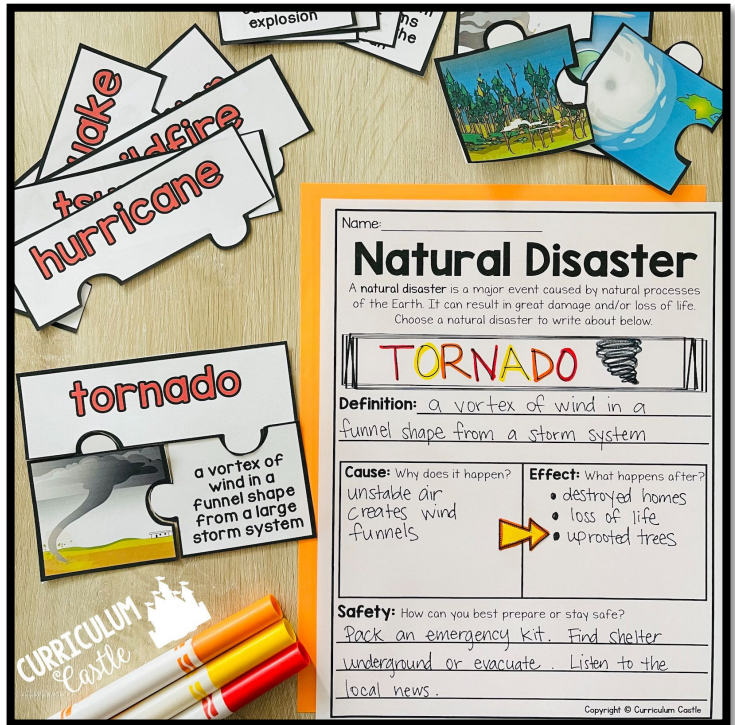
when lava and
gas are released;
sometimes

BY: CURRICULUM Castle

Natural Disasters PUZZLE CENTER

MATERIALS

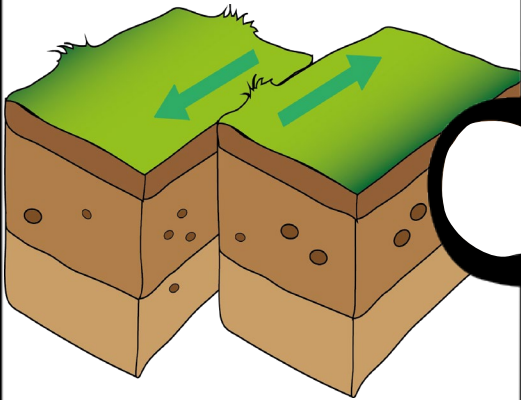
- puzzles on pages 3-5
- scissors
- *Optional:* laminator or cardstock



DIRECTIONS

1. Print and cut out the natural disaster puzzles. You may want to laminate these for extra durability.
2. Mix up the puzzle pieces.
3. Have students work alone or in pairs to match the name, picture and definition of each natural disaster to create 3-piece puzzles!
4. If desired, your students can complete the "Natural Disaster" printable on page 6. Have them research a natural disaster of their choice to fill out the information.

earthquake



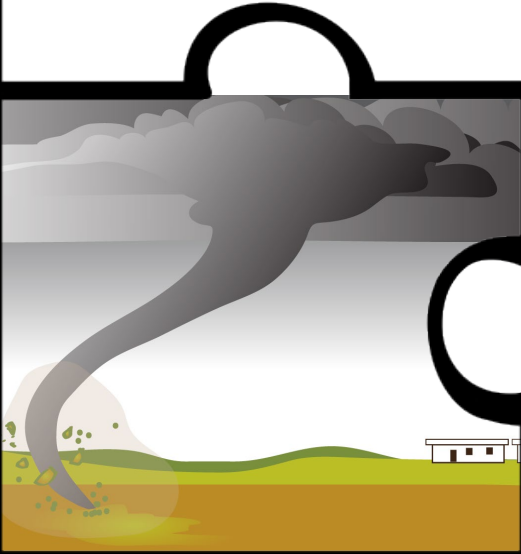
a sudden shaking or movement of a portion of the Earth

hurricane



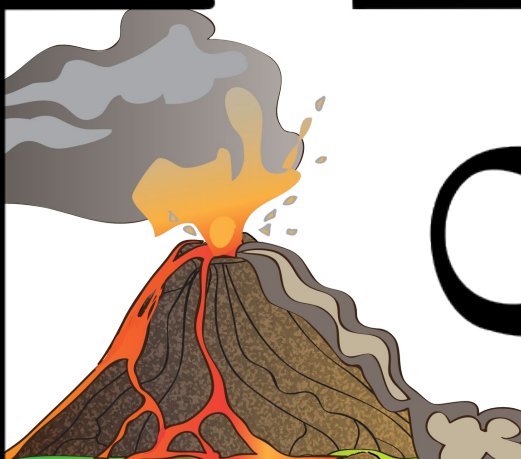
an intense circular storm that forms out over the ocean

tornado



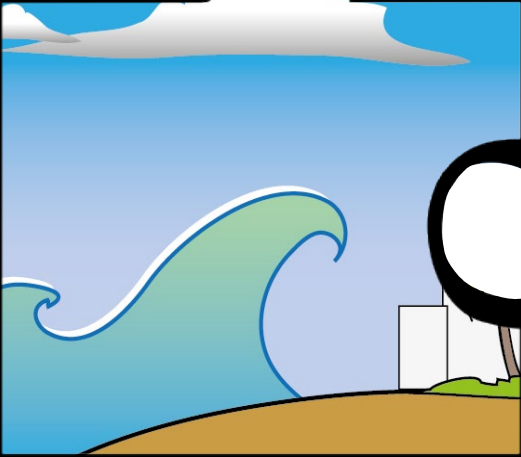
a vortex of
wind in a
funnel shape
from a large
storm system

volcanic eruption



when lava and
gas are released,
sometimes
causing an
explosion

tsunami



a high sea wave usually caused by an earthquake

wildfire



large, uncontrolled fires that usually happens in the forest

Name: _____


Natural Disaster

A natural disaster is a major event caused by natural processes of the Earth. It can result in great damage and/or loss of life.

Choose a natural disaster to write about below.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Definition: _____

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Cause: Why does it happen?</p> | <p>Effect: What happens after?</p> |
|  | |

Safety: How can you best prepare or stay safe?

Check out each of our natural disaster activities by clicking on the images below.

HURRICANE

Print & Digital BUNDLE

Vocabulary Words
hurricane
 an intense circular storm that forms over the Atlantic Ocean, also called typhoon or cyclone
cyclone
 an intense circular storm that forms over the Indian Ocean
typhoon
 an intense circular storm that forms over the Pacific Ocean

Parts of a Hurricane
 eye
 eye wall
 spiral rainbands

What Is a Hurricane?
 Hurricanes are the most violent and powerful storms that form over the ocean. They bring high winds that can blow up to 200 mph (miles per hour). Hurricanes also bring heavy rain, floods and a storm surge from the ocean. These storm surges can cause major damage and devastation. Hurricanes often last for many hours, even days and can be up to 600 miles wide! The name for a hurricane can vary depending on where it forms. We call these storms hurricanes when they form over the Atlantic Ocean, typhoons in the Indian Ocean and typhoons in the Pacific.

Directions: Read the passage. Click and drag the checks to mark each statement as "true" or "false".

| STATEMENT | TRUE | FALSE |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Hurricanes are storms that form over land. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Hurricanes can last for many hours and even days. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3. Cyclones and typhoons are other names for hurricanes. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

Rating Hurricanes
 5 4 1 3

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EARTHQUAKE

Print & Digital BUNDLE

Vocabulary Words
earthquake
 a sudden shaking or movement of a portion of the Earth
epicenter
 the point of land right above where an earthquake begins
fault
 a crack in the Earth's crust where tectonic plates move against each other

Richter Scale
 Scale of numbers used to tell the size, or magnitude, of earthquakes

What Causes Earthquakes?
 The Earth is made up of huge pieces of hot rock called tectonic plates. These plates move very slowly. The places where the plates meet and form cracks are called faults. When these plates rub together, energy is released from the fault as seismic waves. These waves are like ripples on a pond. The waves shake the earth as they move through it, and when the waves reach the Earth's surface, they shake the ground and everything on it. The exact location on the Earth's surface directly above where an earthquake takes place is called the epicenter.

Directions: Read the passage. Click and drag the checks to mark each correct answer.

Earth is made up of _____ plates. Waves shake the Earth _____.

fault tectonic fault tectonic seismic seismic

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TORNADO

Print & Digital BUNDLE

Vocabulary Words
tornado
 a whirling wind in a funnel shape from a large storm system, also called a "twister" or "cyclone"
funnel
 a cone shape that is wider at the top
vortex
 a whirling mass of water or air that sucks everything near it towards its center

Tornado Alley

What Is a Tornado?
 A tornado is a type of violent and powerful weather. Tornadoes are made up of a very fast rotating column of air that usually forms a funnel shape. Their high-speed winds can cause trees to topple over, destroy buildings and throw heavy objects like cars into the air! The fastest winds on Earth happen inside a tornado. Tornadoes can happen anywhere, but most of the tornadoes in the United States happen in an area called "Tornado Alley". Over 1,000 tornadoes touch down in the United States per year, more than any other country.

Directions: Read the passage. Click and drag the checks to mark each statement as "true" or "false".

| STATEMENT | TRUE | FALSE |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. A tornado is made up of a very fast rotating column of air. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 2. Most tornadoes in the United States happen in an area called "Tornado Alley". | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3. About 250 tornadoes happen every year in the United States. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

Rating Tornadoes
 EF3 EF0 EF1 EF5

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VOLCANO

Print & Digital BUNDLE

Vocabulary Words
volcano
 an opening in the Earth's crust where hot rock comes out
ash cloud
 a cloud of ash and smoke that rises from a volcano
vent
 an opening in the Earth's crust where lava flows out
lava flow
 a flow of molten rock that comes out of a volcano

Parts of a Volcano

How Volcanoes Erupt & Form
 The Earth's crust is made up of huge chunks of land called tectonic plates, which fit together like a puzzle. These plates sometimes move. The friction causes earthquakes and volcanic eruptions near the edges of the plates. It is so hot beneath the Earth's surface that it melts rock. The melted rock becomes a thick liquid called magma. Volcanoes are formed when magma travels through a crack to the surface. The place it comes out of is called a vent. At the surface of the vent, the eruption forms lava flows and ash deposits. Over time, the volcano will get bigger and bigger as the lava flows into hardened rocks and builds up.

Directions: Read the passage. Click and drag the checks to mark each correct answer.

Earth is made up of _____ plates. Magma comes out of a crack called a _____.

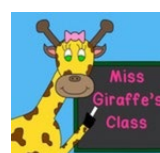
puzzle seismic hole vent tectonic seismic chamber

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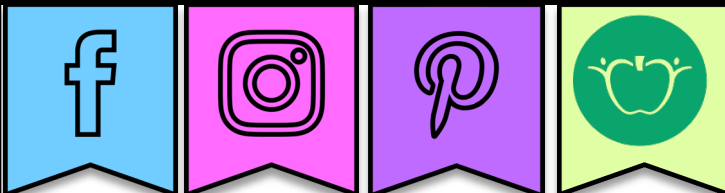
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