



Year 5  
Spring Term

# Natural Disasters



## Key knowledge:

Where are volcanoes on the Earth located and why? Where do most earthquakes occur and why? Comparison of UK and Southern Italy and North America—what do their locations teach us and what is happening under the ground to cause this? What is the ring of fire? What happens during an earthquake?

## Key skills:

- use an atlas to identify the continents, equator and major oceans;
- use of an atlas, globe and research to explore key features of North America, Europe and the related tectonic plates;
- use of an atlas or map to identify the ring of fire;
- to understand the key physical processes involved in plate tectonics, volcanoes and earthquakes



## Key Vocabulary:

**Crust:** *top layer of the Earth's surface*

**Mantle:** *mostly solid bulk of the Earth's interior*

**Core:** *the very hot, dense centre of the Earth*

**Volcano:** *an opening in the earth's crust through which lava, volcanic ash, and gases escape*

**tectonic plate:** *gigantic pieces of the Earth's crust and uppermost mantle.*

**Earthquake:** *the sudden release of strain energy in the Earth's crust,*

**fault line:** *a place where there is a long break in the rock that forms the surface of the earth*

**Physical process:** *the natural forces that change Earth's physical features*

**What came before:** Water Cycle, rivers, London and comparison with Greece (Year 4); Neighbours—Near and Far (Year 5)

**What comes next:** European geography—WWI (Year 5); European geography (WWII), climate zones, human impact (Year 6)