

Tsunamis and NOAA

Working to Keep Us Safe

Read the paragraph and complete the activities.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

1 The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is a government agency in the United States. NOAA officials use equipment on the floor and surface of the ocean to measure tsunamis. The great waves are difficult to predict.

NOAA spends forty million dollars a year in an effort to protect the United States from tsunamis. The country has operated a tsunami warning system for forty years. It operates two tsunami warning centers – one on the Hawaiian island of Oahu and another in Palmer, Alaska. Jenifer Rhoades supervises NOAA's Tsunami Program.



2 Vocabulary Check

Match the words with their meanings.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1 agency | a a government organization |
| 2 equipment | b tools and machines |
| 3 measure | c to find out the size, amount, etc. |
| 4 predict | d to say what will happen |
| 5 protect | e to keep safe |
| 6 operate | f to run or manage |
| 7 center | g a place |
| 8 supervise | h to be in charge of |
| 9 tsunami | i a very large sea wave |
| 10 effort | j hard work; a lot of work |

3 True or False?

Read the sentences. Write T (True) or F (False).

- NOAA is a government agency in the United States. _____
- NOAA officials use equipment on the ocean floor and surface to measure tsunamis. _____
- Tsunamis are easy to predict. _____
- NOAA spends forty million dollars a year to protect the United States from tsunamis. _____
- The United States has had a tsunami warning system for thirty years. _____
- NOAA operates two warning centers – one in Hawaii and one in Alaska. _____
- Jenifer Rhoades is the supervisor of NOAA's Tsunami Program. _____

4 Choose the best answer.

Circle the correct option.

- What does NOAA do?
a) It predicts earthquakes. b) It measures tsunamis.
c) It protects the United States. d) It builds boats.
- How much money does NOAA spend each year?
a) \$4 million b) \$40 million c) \$400 million d) \$4,000 million
- How many warning centers does NOAA operate?
a) one b) two c) three d) four
- Where is one of the centers located?
a) Oahu (Hawaii) b) Palmer (Alaska) c) Tokyo (Japan) d) California
- What is Jenifer Rhoades's role?
a) director b) scientist c) supervisor d) engineer

5 Short Answer

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- What is NOAA?

- How do NOAA officials measure tsunamis?

- Why are tsunamis difficult to predict?

- How much money does NOAA spend each year?

- Where are the two tsunami warning centers located?

- Who supervises NOAA's Tsunami Program?

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