Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Earthquakes

Earthquakes are natural disasters that humans cannot control. Sometimes earthquakes can be very dangerous, and people need to know more about where earthquakes come from, and how to ***protect*** themselves from them and any other natural disasters.

Earthquakes are the shaking, rolling or sudden shock of the earth's surface. They are the Earth's natural means of releasing pressure. More than a million occur in the world each year. Earthquakes can be felt over large areas although they usually last less than a minute. However, earthquakes cannot be predicted although scientists are still working on the problem.

There are about 20 plates along the surface of the earth that move continuously and slowly past each other. When the plates squeeze or stretch, huge rocks form at their edges and the rocks shift with great force, causing an earthquake. As the plates move, they put forces on themselves and each other. When the force is large enough, the ***crust*** is forced to break.

Shaking and groundbreaking are the main effects created by earthquakes, principally resulting in more or less severe damage to buildings and other structures. The severity of the effect depends on the complex combination of the earthquake magnitude. Ground break is a major risk for large engineering structures such as dams, bridges and nuclear power stations and requires careful mapping of existing faults to identify any likely to break the ground surface within the life of the structure.

1. The above reading is mainly about

a. ☐the destruction caused by earthquakes b. ☐protecting people from earthquakes

c. ☐why and where earthquakes occur

2. Earthquake are considered natural disaster because

a. ☐they are man-made b. ☐man has no control over them

c. ☐man can control them

3. **What does the shaking of the ground result in?**

a. ☐damage to buildings and structures b. ☐ releasing energy into air

c. ☐both a. and b.

4. **Earthquakes are considered disastrous for people and properties because:**

a. ☐earthquakes happen in cities b. ☐ they are unpredictable

c. ☐ man can control them

5. Which layer of the Earth breaks during an earthquake?

a. ☐ the crust b. ☐ the core

c. ☐ the mantle

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