Where on Earth am I? (Year 3)

Vocabulary

country	county	city	national park	physical characteristics	human characteristics
					
Land controlled by a government.	An area of a country. Some have county councils that run some local services.	A large town that usually contains an important church called a cathedral.	An area of the country that is protected by the government.	Parts of a place that are natural.	Parts of a place that humans built or things that humans are doing.

Leicestershire

Knowledge

- The United Kingdom is broken into smaller areas called counties. These often have county councils that are in charge of some local services.
- Leicester is a city in the county of Leicestershire. Highfields is a small area of the city.
- Places have different physical characteristics. Places can be flat, hilly, mountainous, inland or coastal. Places can be near bodies of water such as rivers, lakes or seas.
- Places have different human characteristics. Some have more buildings and roads than others. Buildings or land can be used in different ways in different places.
- Places have problems linked to their physical and human characteristics.

Strand

Leicester

Things I already know that I can connect new information with

- I know the capital cities and surrounding seas of the United Kingdom. (Y2)
- I know that Leicester is a city. I can compare Leicester to London. (Y2)

What makes the Earth angry? Earthquakes (Year 3)

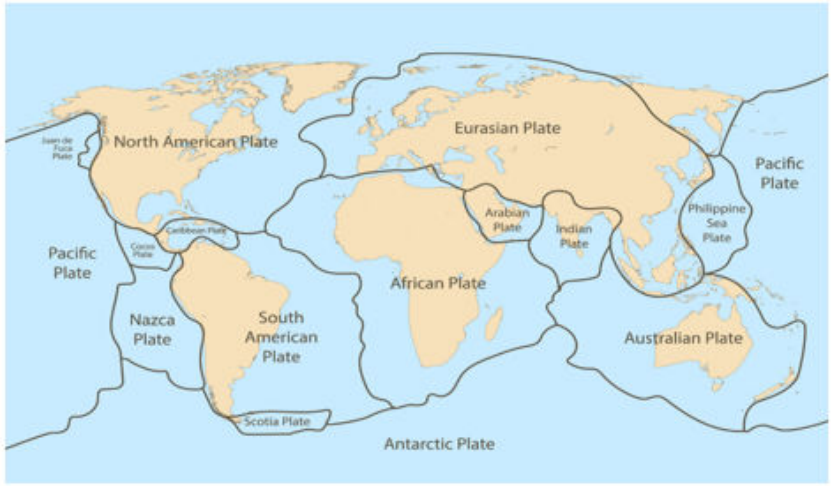
Strand

Natural phenomena

Vocabulary

earthquake	epicentre	focus	seismologist	Richter Scale	tectonic plates
A sudden shake of the Earth to free the energy between tectonic plates.	The area on the Earth's surface directly above the earthquake's focus.	The point inside the Earth where the energy is released to cause the earthquake.	A person who studies earthquakes.	This is used to measure the strength of earthquakes. It is named after the American seismologist who created it.	These are sections of the Earth that can move.

Earth's major tectonic plates



Knowledge

- The Earth is made up of different layers. The upper layer is broken into large rocky sections called tectonic plates. These plates move very slowly.
- An earthquake is the shaking of the Earth. This usually happens at plate boundaries where two tectonic plates meet. It happens here because plates do not always move smoothly and can sometimes get stuck. This creates pressure or energy that needs to be released.
- The point where the pressure is released is called the focus. The area on the Earth's surface directly above the focus is called the epicentre. The shaking is felt more strongly at the epicentre so the most severe damage caused by an earthquake happens close to the epicentre.
- The strength of an earthquake can be measured using the Richter Scale. It measures from 0-10 where 10 is the greatest strength.
- Where an earthquake happens underwater, a tsunami occurs.
- Earthquakes have short term and long term effects on local people. They can cause death and injury; buildings, water pipes, roads and bridges can be destroyed; disease can spread; people can lose their homes.

Things I already know that I can connect new knowledge with:

- Locate and name the continents on a world map. (Y2)

What makes the Earth angry? Volcanoes (Year 3)

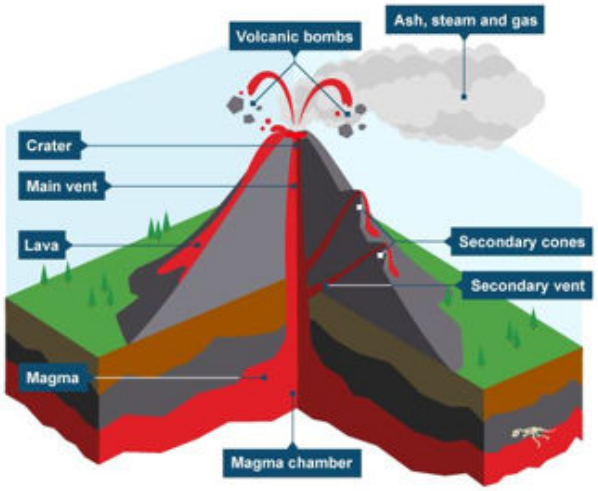
Strand

Natural phenomena

Vocabulary

volcano	magma	lava	vent	crater	cone
A deep hole in the Earth's upper layer that can let out hot gases, ash and lava.	Hot liquid that is under the earth's surface.	This is what we call magma once it reaches the Earth's surface.	A tube that magma travels through.	A bowl-shaped basin at the top of a volcano.	A hill that forms around the volcano. It is made of the things that erupted from the volcano.

Inside a volcano



Things I already know that I can connect new knowledge with:

- Locate and name the oceans and continents on a world map. (Y2)
- The Earth's upper layer is broken into large rocky sections called tectonic plates. (Y3)

Knowledge

- A volcano is an opening in the Earth's upper layer (the crust). Hot gases, ash and magma escape from this opening.
- Volcanoes occur at plate boundaries, in the middle of plates where the crust is thin, or where the Earth's layers are particularly hot.
- Magma builds up deep beneath the surface of the Earth under enormous pressure. The pressure forces the magma to travel looking for a way up through the Earth's crust. Where there are weaknesses in the crust, it escapes. This mixture of lava, gas and ash flow out.
- Volcanic eruptions can have negative and positive effects on the local area and its people. Flowing lava can damage animal habitats, buildings, roads and bridges. Ash can fall onto roofs causing them to collapse. Ash clouds in the sky can cause travel disruption for aeroplanes. However, ash from a volcano can make soils fertile which means that new things can grow in them.
- Many people choose to live near volcanoes. This could be because the fertile soil is good for farming; because many tourists visit the area making business opportunities; or because the energy under the ground can be harnessed and used.
- Not all volcanoes are active. Some or dormant (haven't erupted in a very long time); or extinct (not capable of erupting ever again).
- Communities respond to volcanic eruptions by evacuating residents, excluding areas, rebuilding and using seismic equipment to monitor and predict.