



Y3 - Geography Knowledge Organiser – What a disaster!



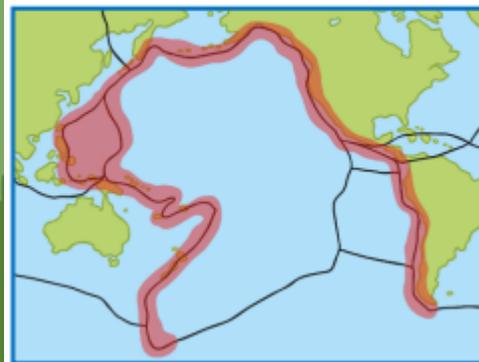
VOCABULARY

Natural disaster	A violent event that is outside the control of humans. They are caused by the forces of nature and may result in loss of life, injury and damage to property.
Tectonic plates	The Earth's crust is divided into sections which can move and are called tectonic plates.
Earthquake	A sudden violent shaking of the ground, typically causing great destruction, as a result of movements within the earth's crust or volcanic action.
Volcanic eruption	An opening in the earth's crust from which lava, ash and hot gases flow or are ejected during an eruption.
Avalanche	A mass of snow, ice and rocks falling down a mountainside.
Drought	A prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.
Flooding	The covering or submerging of normally dry land with a large amount of water.
Hurricane/ Cyclone/ Typhoon	A storm with a violent wind.
Tornado	A mobile, destructive vortex of violently rotating winds having the appearance of a funnel-shaped cloud and advancing beneath a large storm system.
Tsunami	A long, high sea wave caused by an earthquake or other disturbance.
Wildfire	A large, destructive fire that spreads quickly over woodland or bush.
Aid agency	An organisation that gives money, equipment, medicines or services to people who need them in an emergency – often run by charities.

A natural disaster is an event caused by nature, such as: floods, volcanic eruptions, tropical storms, tornados, landslides, wildfires and many more. These events cause lots of damage to the communities and locations where they occur. This damage is often to people's homes, and therefore they cost countries lots of money to rebuild and repair after an event.

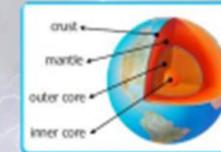


THE PACIFIC RING OF FIRE



The Ring of Fire is a horseshoe-shaped line on a map which is home to around 75% of the world's volcanoes and 90% of the world's earthquakes.

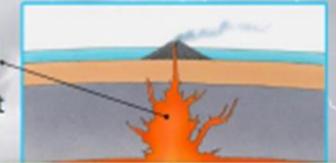
WHY DO VOLCANOES HAPPEN?



The Earth is made up of several layers. Underneath the crust is the **mantle**. This layer consists of semi-molten rock.

In some areas, the mantle becomes so pressurised that it becomes a liquid called **magma**. The liquid then escapes through vents in the crust. This is what a volcano is.

The magma builds up in a magma chamber until the pressure is too much and it has to be released.



TYPES OF VOLCANO

Active	A volcano that has erupted since the last ice age (i.e., in the past 10,000 years).
Dormant	A volcano that hasn't erupted in the past 10,000 years, but which is expected to erupt again.
Extinct	A volcano that nobody expects to ever erupt again.

EARTHQUAKE DIAGRAM



KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS

Continent – a very large landmass.

Ernest Shackleton – A polar explorer

Expedition – a journey undertaken by a group of people with a particular purpose.

Ice sheet – a layer of ice covering a large piece of land

Glacier – a river or large mass of ice formed by packed-down snow.

Desert – a region with very little rainfall

Hemisphere – a half of the Earth divided by the equator

Climate – the average weather over a period of time

Navigate - plan and direct the course of a ship

Mountainous – having many mountains

The Poles

The North and South Poles are the most Northern and Southern points in the world.

The North and South Poles are the axis points on Earth. The Earth spins from this point.



Ernest Shackleton

Ernest Shackleton was a polar explorer. In 1914 Shackleton took a team of men on an expedition to Antarctica on a ship called the Endurance as he wanted to be the first to pass through the South Pole via Antarctica.



LOCATION – Antarctica is the southernmost continent on Earth located in the southern hemisphere and is surrounded by the Southern Ocean. It covers a huge area, about 14 million square kilometres.



Comparison

	Antarctic	Arctic
Maps		
Terrain	The Antarctic is based on a large land continent (Antarctica) covered in ice and snow. Antarctica has several mountains as well as huge glaciers. Large icebergs can be found at sea.	The Arctic ocean is the main feature of the Arctic. However, it is covered by thick sea ice for most of the year, underneath a blanket of snow. Therefore, the Arctic is quite flat compared to the Antarctic.
Climate and Weather Patterns	Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth. The temperature can reach as low as -89°C ! Worse still, freezing blizzards can take place for days at a time.	The Arctic is not as cold as the Antarctic: The ocean warms the air a little. It is still very cold though! In some months, the Northern lights can be seen in the Arctic.
Animals	Emperor penguins are one of Antarctica's famous residents. A number of seals and birds also live in Antarctica.	Polar bears are one of the apex predators in the Arctic. The Arctic fox, reindeer, walrus, beluga whales and narwhals also live in the Arctic circle.

mountain

a natural landform that rises above the surrounding landscape

base

the bottom of a mountain where it meets flat ground

mountain range

a collection or group of mountains or hills

slope

the incline or decline on the side of a mountain

summit

the highest point of a mountain or hill

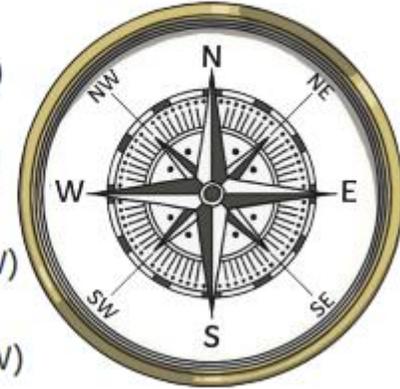
valley

usually a stream runs through this area between hills or mountains

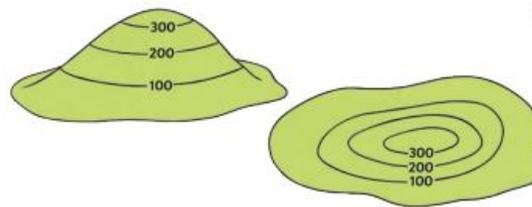


Eight-Point Compass

north (N)
north-east (NE)
east (E)
south-east (SE)
south (S)
south-west (SW)
west (W)
north-west (NW)



Contour Lines



These lines on a map join land that is at the same height.

They are usually marked in 5m or 10m intervals.

The closer the lines are together, the steeper the slope will be.



TOPOGRAPHY the surface features of the earth like hills, mountains, valleys etc.