

Geography Knowledge Organiser-USA Including Earthquakes

Assessment Question: How, why and where do earthquakes happen?

Key Vocabulary

- **Earthquake** the shaking of the earth's surface caused by movement below ground.
- Epicentre- The central point of origin of the earthquake.
- Magnitude The number given to show the size of the earthquake.
- **Tectonic Plate** Sections of the earth's crust which are like huge jigsaw pieces.
- The Richter Scale- used to measure the strength of an earthquake. Each level is ten times more than the level before it so level 4 is ten times greater than level 3.
- Fault a break in a layer of rock.
- Seismic wave a wave caused by earthquakes.
- Tsunami a huge wave caused by an underwater earthquake.
- **Destruction** destroying something.
- Disaster an event that causes harm or damage.
- Tremor a slight earthquake.
- Crust the rocky outer layer of the earth.
- Seismograph an instrument for measuring the size of a volcano.
- Mantle a covering.









