

# Earthquake



An earthquake is an intense shaking of the Earth's surface caused by the movement of tectonic plates beneath the Earth's surface. Sometimes when these tectonic plates rub against each other they can get stuck. When the pressure builds up, it suddenly releases, causing an earthquake. The size and intensity of earthquakes varies greatly.

# Volcano



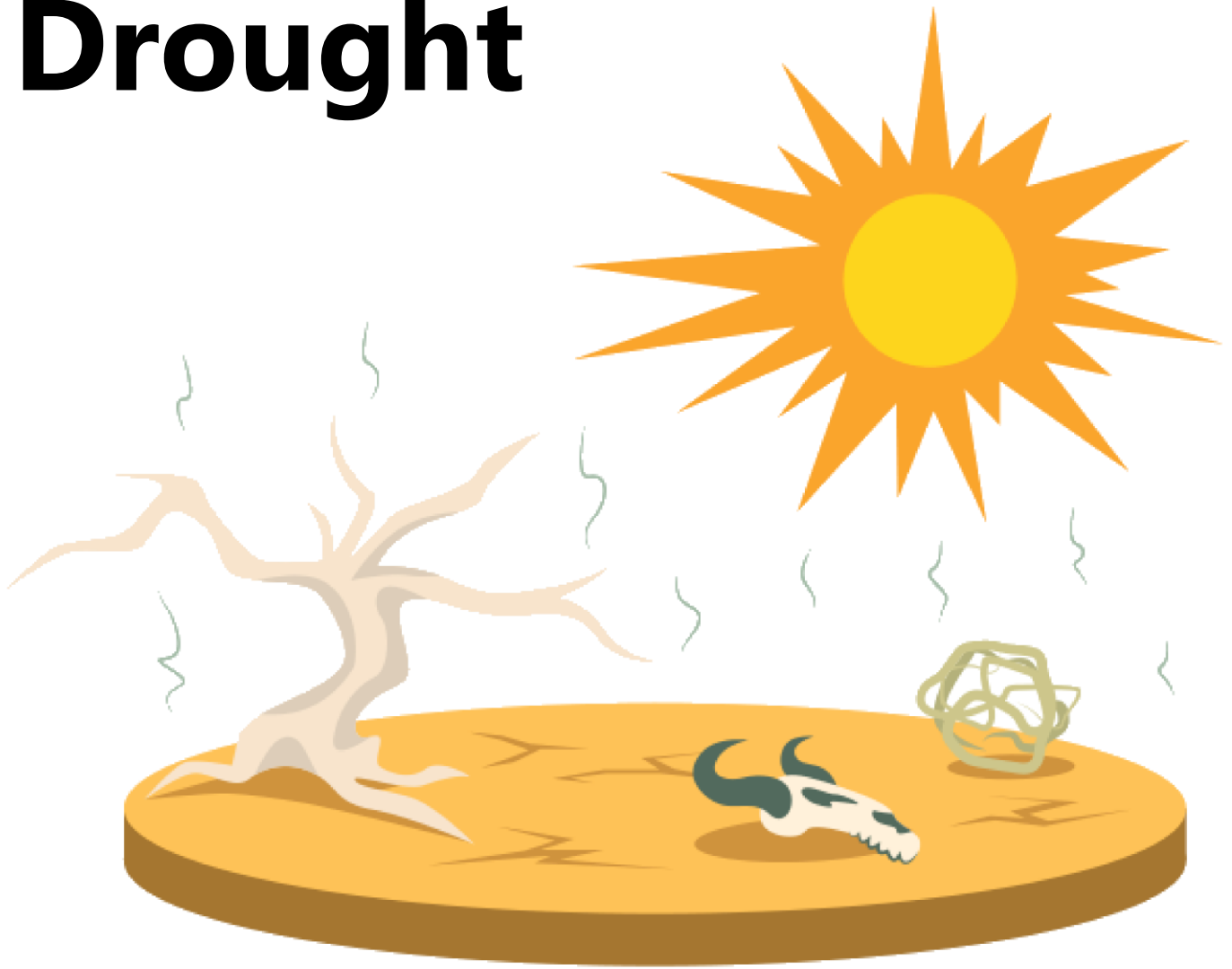
Volcanoes are natural formations that erupt with tremendous force, releasing molten rock, ash, and gases from deep within the Earth. They are usually located at the boundaries of tectonic plates, where the Earth's crust is shifting and colliding. A volcanic eruption results from a build-up of pressure.

# Flood



During a flood, water overflows onto land that is usually dry. Floods can happen for several reasons, such as heavy rainfall, melting snow, or even dam failures. Floodwaters can be swift and powerful, sweeping away anything in their path. Low-lying areas and riverbanks are most at risk of being submerged by rising water levels.

# Drought



A drought occurs when there is a period of below-average rainfall in an area, leading to water scarcity. A shortage of water can have serious consequences for the environment, agriculture, and communities. Water sources such as rivers, lakes, and reservoirs can dry, making survival difficult for people and animals.

# Landslide



Landslides occur when large amounts of rock, soil, and debris slide down a slope, often triggered by heavy rainfall, earthquakes, or human activities like construction. Ground becomes unstable during landslides, causing trees, houses and other structures to be swept away. When a landslide occurs in an area with snow, it is called an avalanche.

# Tornado



A tornado is a powerful and rapidly rotating column of air that extends down from a thunderstorm and usually reaches to the ground. They are characterised by their funnel-shaped cloud and destructive winds, which can be in the range of 500 kilometres per hour. Tornadoes can form quickly and move swiftly.

# Cyclones



Cyclones, also known as hurricanes or typhoons depending on the region, are powerful tropical storms which form over warm ocean waters. Wind speeds in extreme cyclones can exceed 300 kilometres per hour. Cyclones are categorised on a scale of 1 to 5. Category 1 cyclones are the least intense while and Category 5 cyclones are the most severe.





# Bushfires



Bushfires, also known as wildfires, are large fires that can spread quickly through forests, grasslands, and shrublands. They most commonly occur in hot, dry environments, especially during periods of drought. Bushfires can start from both natural causes and human activity, whether accidental or on purpose. Many bushfires are caused by lightning strikes.