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| **Key Facts** |
| The tectonic plates are constantly moving but sometimes they get stuck. When they get stuck, pressure builds up and the plates will suddenly move. This causes an earthquake. |
| After a big earthquake, aftershocks will often happen. An aftershock is one or more small earthquakes after the main one has occurred.  |
| The country where most earthquakes happen is Japan. |
| The Earth is made up of four main layers: **crust, mantle, outer core, and inner core.** |

**Year 4 – Spring 2 – Natural Disasters (earthquakes)**

Regular earthquake sites

Tectonic Plates



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| **Key Vocabulary** |
| Earthquake | The movements within the [Earth's crust](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth%27s_crust) | Seismic wave | The vibration generated by an earthquake. |
| Tectonic | The Earth’s crust is made up of large areas called tectonic plates that join together. | Epicentre | The place on the Earth's surface directly above the point where an earthquake starts. |
| Magnitude  | The size or extent of something | Cause and effect | The relationship between actions or events in which at least one action or event is a direct result of the others. |
| Impact | The effect or influence of something |  |  |