



Earthquakes and Other Natural Disasters

1 Looking at the contents page, how many natural disasters do you think you're going to learn about in the book?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.5

2 Using the map on pages 6–7, decide which natural disaster interests you the most and turn to the relevant page to find out more about it.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

3 Using the map on pages 6–7, create a timeline of the natural disasters.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

4 Choose three pictures that don't have captions and write your own.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

5 Write your own glossary entries for three terms that you didn't know before reading the book, or for three terms that a younger reader might not know.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.4

6 The book uses a mixture of drawn illustrations and photographs. Write a pro and a con for each style.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.9

7 Using the contents, glossary, and main text, write a fact file about one of the natural disasters.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.5, RI.4.2

8 Create a graph detailing the number of people who died in each disaster to compare the impact each one had on its local community.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.3

9 Create a warning poster about the natural disaster that you think was the most shocking and/or tragic.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.3

10 Add to your timeline any dates and events that aren't included in the map.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1

Answers

1 eight

2 Answers will vary.

3 79 CE: Mount Vesuvius erupts in Pompeii, Italy; 1755: An earthquake

erupts in Lisbon, Portugal; 1887: The Yellow River floods in China;

1902: Mount Pelee erupts in Martinique in the Caribbean;

1906: An earthquake erupts in San Francisco; 1938: A hurricane hits Long

Island, USA; 1970: An avalanche in Yungay, Peru; 1983: A bushfire in

Southern Australia

4 Answers will vary. Example answer: page 12: Citizens of Pompeii flee

the city as ash from Mount Vesuvius rains down; page 23: Locals in boats

throw food to those stranded on the roofs of their houses; page 29:

Terror on the streets of San Francisco as buildings collapse during the

earthquake.

5 Answers will vary. Example answer: shockproof: designed to withstand

damage during an earthquake; toiled: worked; looter: someone who

steals goods, often during a crisis such as a natural disaster, war, or riot

6 Answers will vary. Example answer:

Illustrations pro: They can show exactly what the text is explaining and

really bring a scene to life. Illustration con: They are not always accurate.

Photograph pro: They are a reliable source. Photograph con: They can be

unclear.

7 Answers will vary.

8 Yellow River flood: 900,000; Lisbon's earthquake: 60,000;

Pelee: 30,000; Vesuvius: 2,000; Long Island hurricane: 600;

San Francisco's earthquake: 500; Australia's wildfire: 445

9 Answers will vary.

10 1852: Minor eruption of Mount Pelee; 1631: 18,000 people die in

Mount Vesuvius eruption; 1860: Pompeii is uncovered; 1944: Most

recent Mount Vesuvius eruption; 1994: An earthquake erupts in San

Francisco