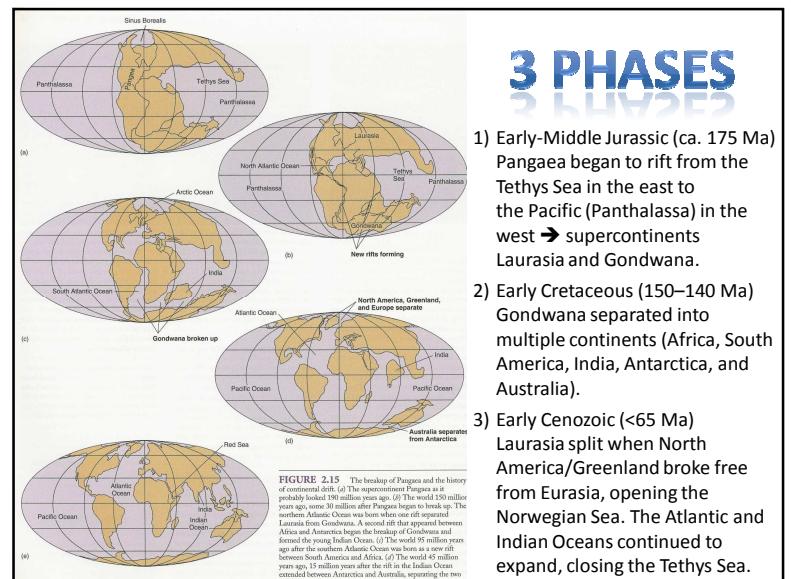
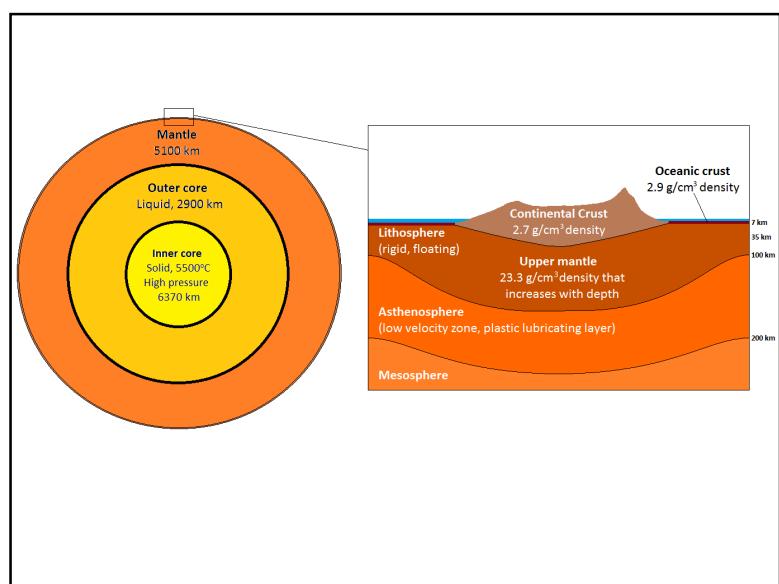
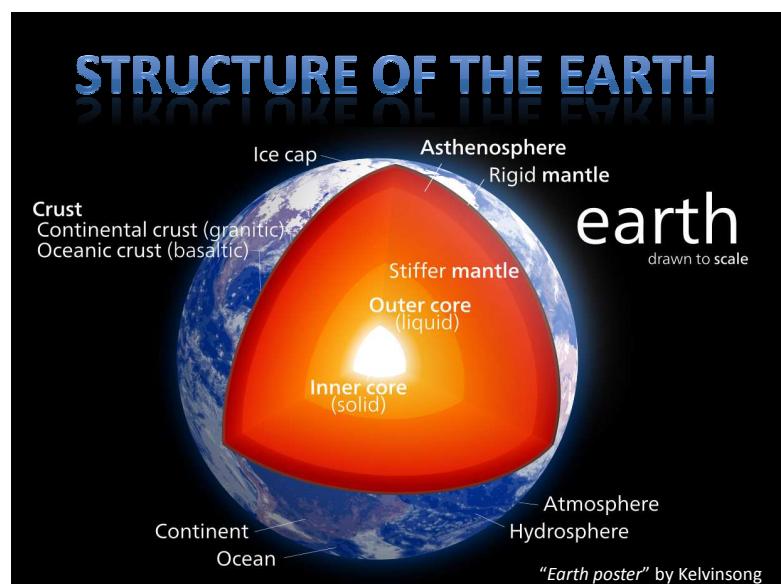
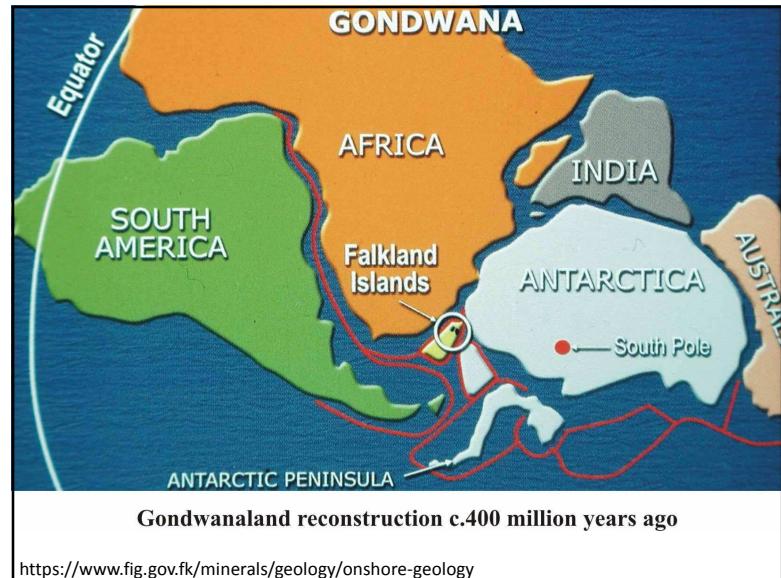
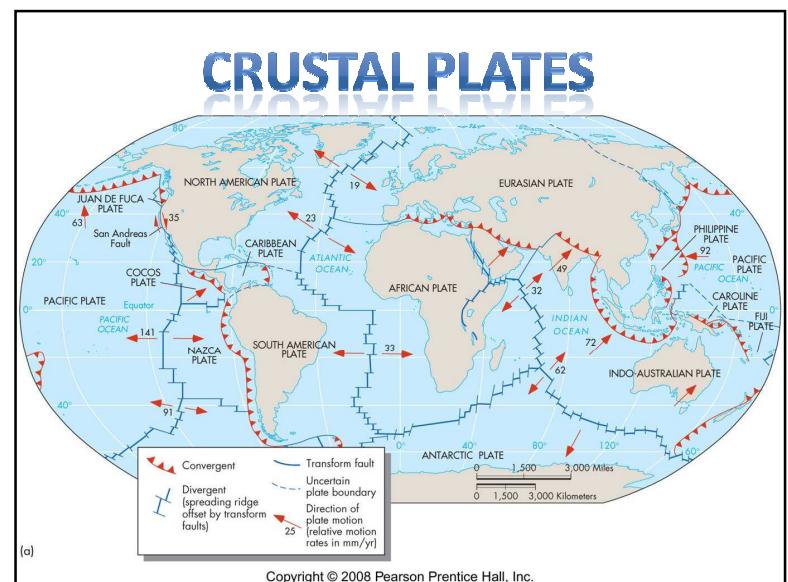
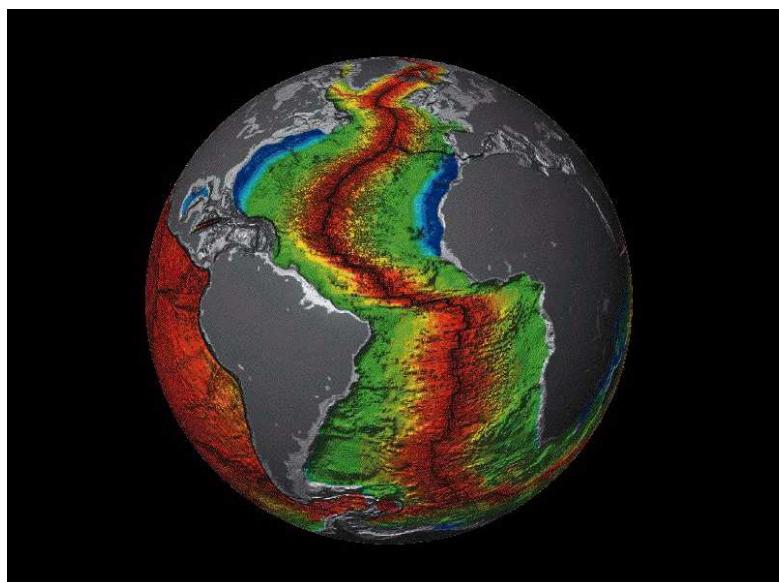
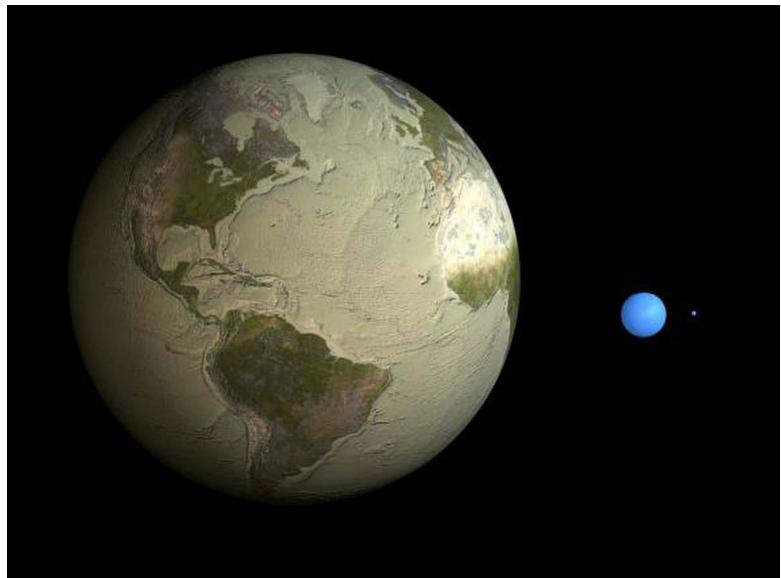
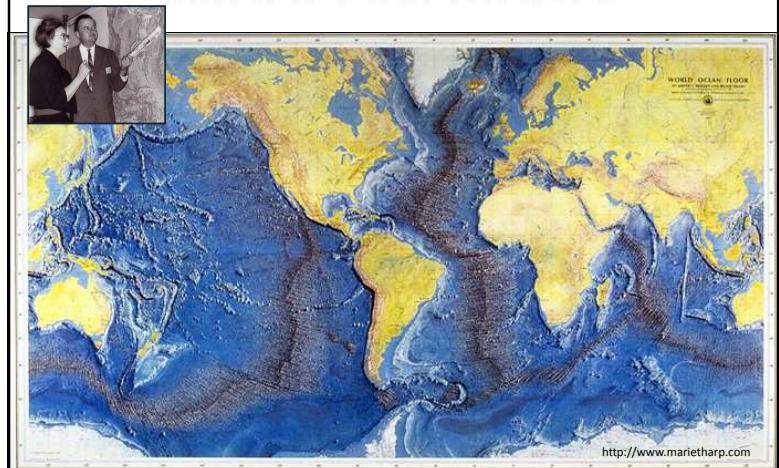


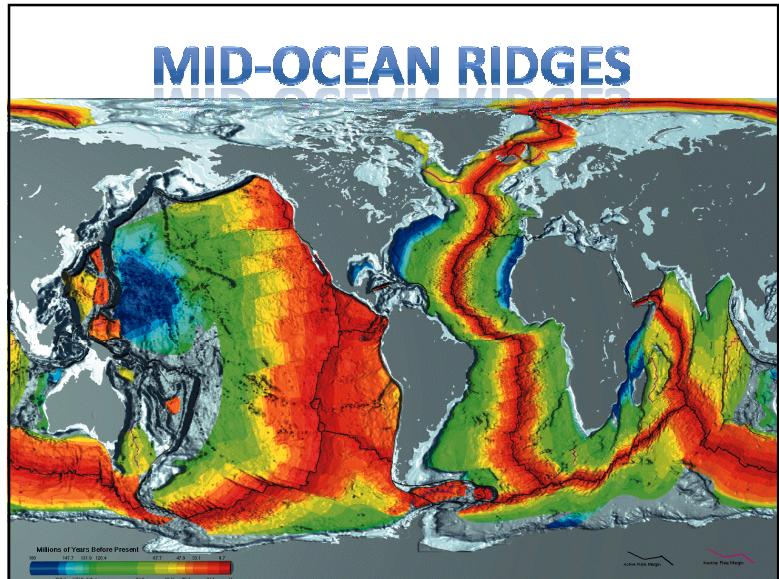
Plate tectonics



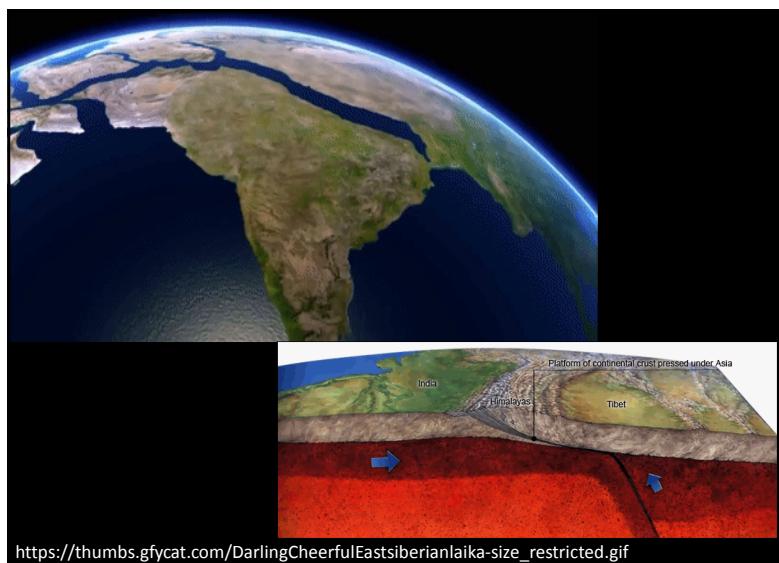


MIDOCEAN RIDGES

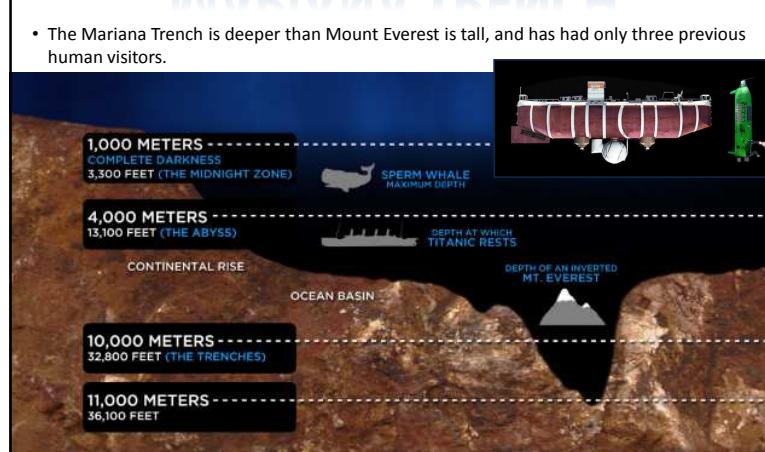


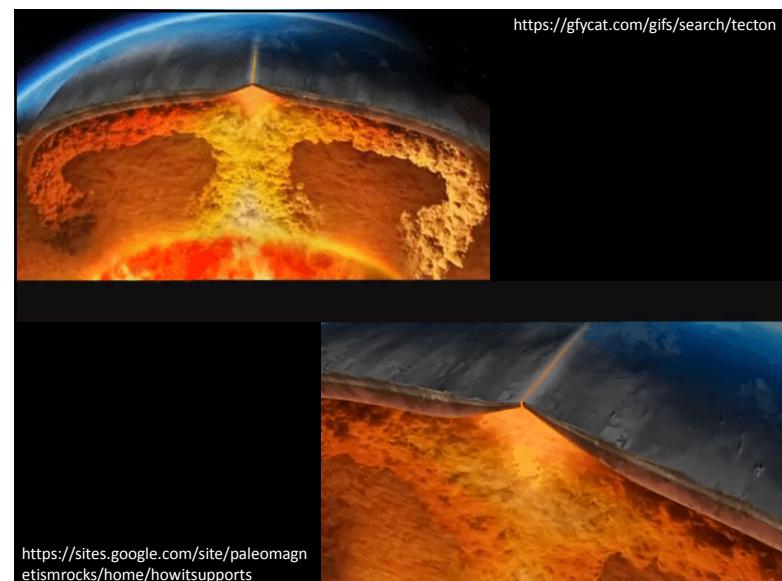
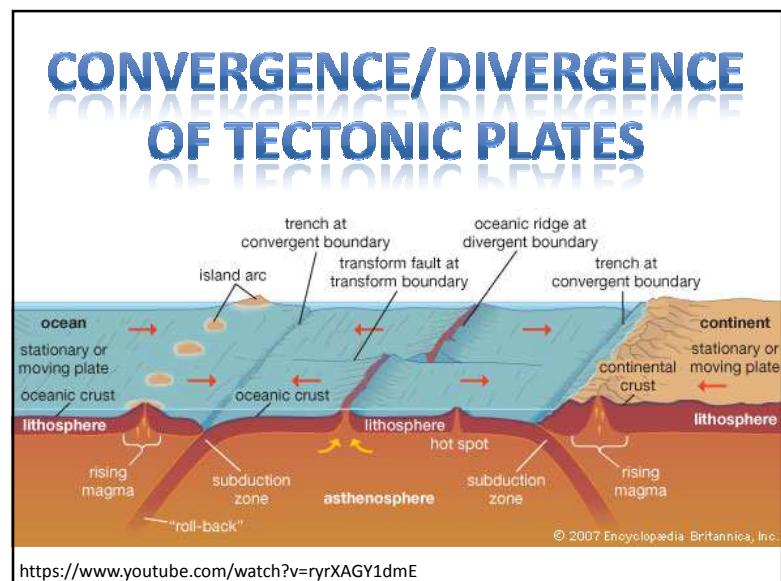
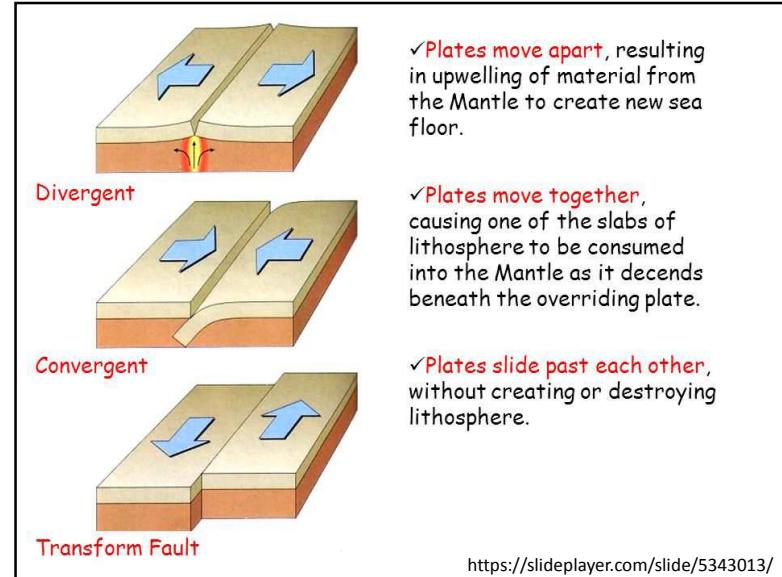


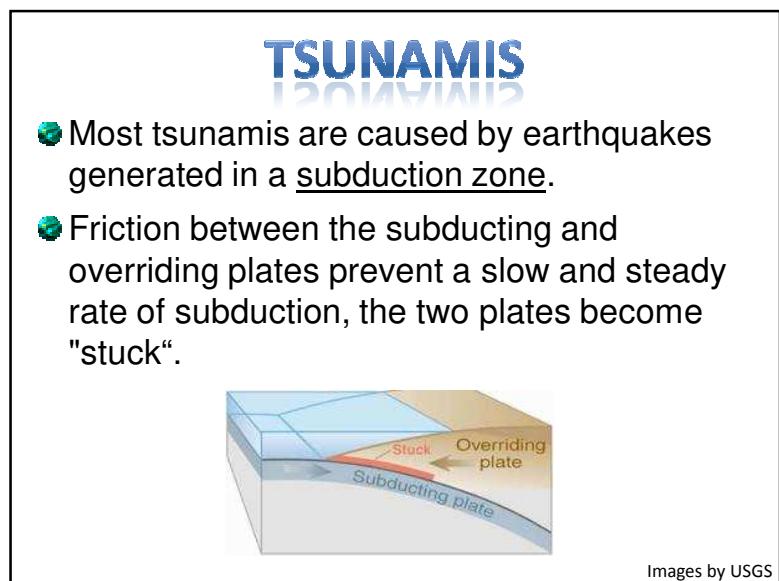
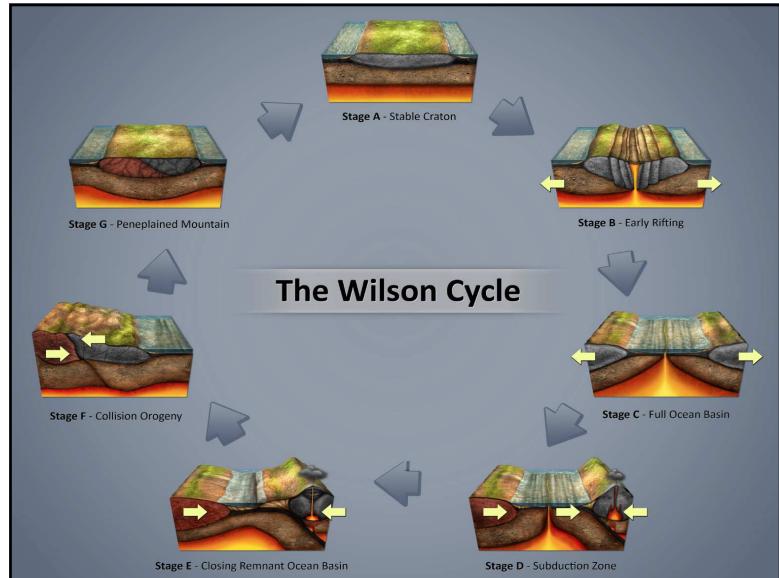
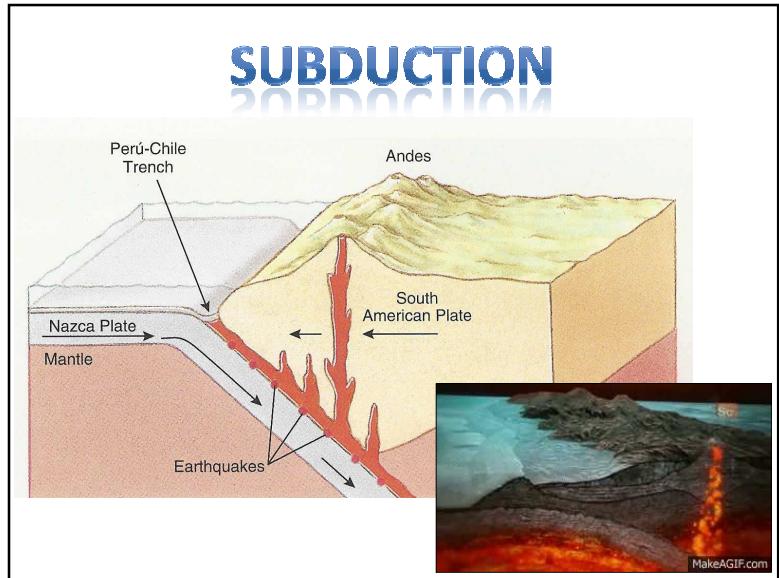
Great Rift Valley



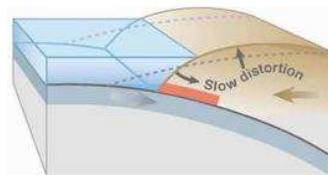
MARIANA TRENCH



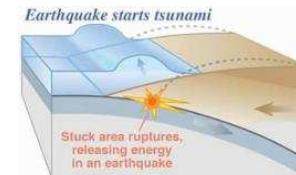




- As the subducting plate continues to descend into the mantle the motion causes a slow distortion of the stuck overriding plate.
- Energy accumulates much like the energy stored in a compressed spring and can last decades to centuries.



- Once the energy in the overriding plate exceeds frictional forces the overriding plate snaps back into an unrestrained position.
- A tsunami results due to the enormous shove to the overlying water.
- Sometimes the inland areas of the overriding plate are suddenly lowered.



- The moving wave travels out from where the earthquake has occurred (epicentre).
- Some of the water travels out and across the ocean basin, and, at the same time, water rushes landward to flood the recently lowered shoreline.

