

Natural disasters



Drought



Tunderstorm



Flood



Tornado



Volcano eruption



Earthquake



Tsunami



Wildfire / Forest fire



Landslide / mudslide



Blizzard



Cold wave



Hurricane / Cyclone



Avalanche



Heat wave



Iceberg break



Hailstorm

A tsunami is a train of gigantic waves that occur after an earthquake or volcanic eruption. They can be as high as 30 meters, travel as fast as a jet plane and go as far as 2 kilometers. Most tsunamis happen in the Pacific.

Mudslides are fast moving landslides that occur after heavy rains. They can destroy and kill everything in their path.

Earthquakes are caused by the movement of the earth's plates. 4 out of 5 earthquakes take place in the Pacific Rim.

An avalanche is a like a mudslide except it is made up of snow and ice. They occur in the mountains after fresh snowfalls and can travel at 80 miles an hour.

Drought: A drought occurs when there has not been enough rain so that crops and plants can grow. Farm animals die and people don't have enough to eat.

Forest fires are fires that burn in forest areas. Lightning can start them but usually careless people do. They can travel at 23 kilometers an hour and will destroy everything as they move. Drought and hot weather are also responsible for many fires.

A blizzard is a severe snowstorm with very high winds, extremely low temperatures, and poor or no visibility. They are especially dangerous for travelers who may get stuck in their cars and could suffer from hypothermia.

Floods are one of the worst natural disasters and cost a lot of money. They occur when storms cause rivers to overflow or by high tides. They cause enormous damage and loss of life.

Volcanoes are explosions that happen from openings in the earth's surface. Most volcanoes are located in the Pacific Rim. When volcanoes erupt, they spew magma, lava, and ash. There are between 1,300 to 1,500 volcanoes on Earth.

A tornado is a spinning tube of air that touches the ground and a cloud above. They usually travel only a few miles but can destroy everything in their way. The US has 1200 a year- more than anywhere else in the world.

A hurricane is a strong tropical storm with high winds and heavy rain. Each hurricane has a boy's or girl's name. They cause tremendous damage when they hit land. They occur from June until November in the US.

A heat wave is a prolonged period of extremely high temperatures for a particular region.