

12.1 Lightning

- Lightning is a massive electric spark.
 - Caused by the accumulation and discharge of electric charges in clouds.
 - Ancient people feared it, but now we know it's just an electrical effect.
-

12.2 Charging by Rubbing

- Rubbing certain objects (e.g. plastic refill with polythene) causes them to get charged.
 - These are called charged objects.
 - They can attract small bits of paper or other light things.
-

Activity 12.1 — Charging a Plastic Refill

What to Do:

- Rub a used pen refill with polythene.
- Bring it near bits of paper, dry leaf, husk, or mustard seeds.

Observation:

- The refill attracts small pieces → shows it's charged.

 Conclusion: Friction produces static electricity.

—

Activity 12.2 — Try Charging Other Objects

What to Do:

- Rub objects like balloon, eraser, steel spoon with wool or polythene.
- Check if they attract paper.

Note:

- Plastic objects get charged easily.
 - Metals like steel do not get charged by rubbing.
-

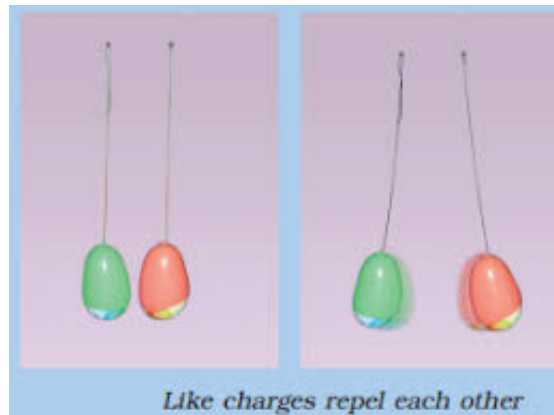
12.3 Types of Charges & Their Interaction

- There are two types of charges: Positive & Negative.
- Like charges repel, unlike charges attract.

☀ Activity 12.3 – Balloon & Refill Interactions

(a) Rub 2 balloons with wool & hang them

🔍 Observation: They repel each other → same charge repels



(b) Rub a refill & put in a glass. Bring charged balloon near it.



Interaction between like charges



Unlike charges attract each other

🔍 Observation: Balloon attracts the refill → opposite charges attract

✅ Conclusion:

- Like charges repel
- Unlike charges attract

—

12.4 Transfer of Charge

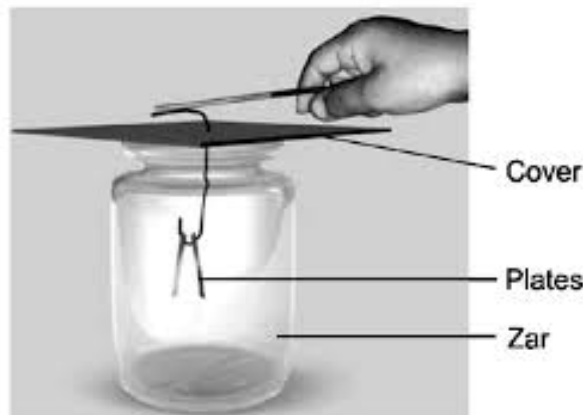
- Charge can transfer from one object to another via a conductor (metal).

—

🌟 Activity 12.4 — Making a Simple Electroscope

🔧 What to Do:

- Take an empty bottle & cardboard lid.
- Insert a metal paperclip with two aluminium foil strips hanging from it.
- Charge a refill and touch the clip.



🔍 Observation:

- Foil strips repel each other (same charge).

✅ Conclusion:

- Charge transferred through metal → foils repel
- If you touch the clip → charge escapes → foils collapse
- This is earthing (discharge of charge to Earth)

—

⚡ 12.5 Lightning Formation

- Air currents move up & water droplets down during storms.
- This causes charge separation:
 - Upper cloud: Positive charge

- Lower cloud & Earth: Negative charge
- When charge builds up enough, electric discharge occurs → lightning



Accumulation of charges leading to lightning.

🌂 12.6 Lightning Safety

- Stay indoors during lightning.
- Don'ts:
 - Don't carry umbrellas
 - Don't use wired phones
 - Don't stand under tall trees
- Do's:
 - Sit inside closed car/building
 - If outdoors with no shelter — squat with head down and hands on knees



► Fig. 15.8 Safe position during lightning

✅ Lightning Conductor:

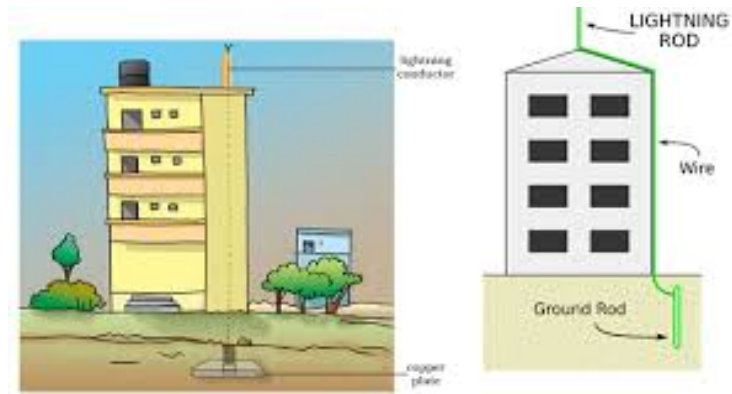
- A metal rod fitted to buildings.
- Transfers charge safely to the ground.

—

🌍 12.7 Earthquakes

- Sudden shaking of earth's crust due to movement of plates.

- Can cause massive damage.



✓ Cause:

- Earth's crust is broken into plates that move.
- Their collision or sliding causes tremors → earthquakes.



—

☀ Activity 12.5 — Learn from Earthquake Events

🔧 What to Do:

- Ask elders about the 2001 (Bhuj) & 2005 (Kashmir) earthquakes.
- Collect photos & make a short report on damage.

—

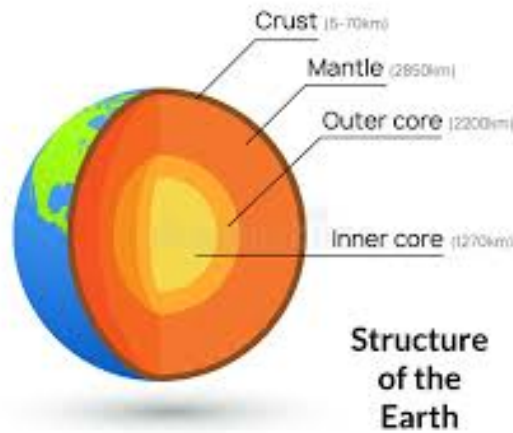
☀ Activity 12.6 — Tsunami Aftermath

🔧 What to Do:

- Mark tsunami-affected areas around the Indian Ocean on a world map.
- Talk to elders about what happened in 2004 tsunami.

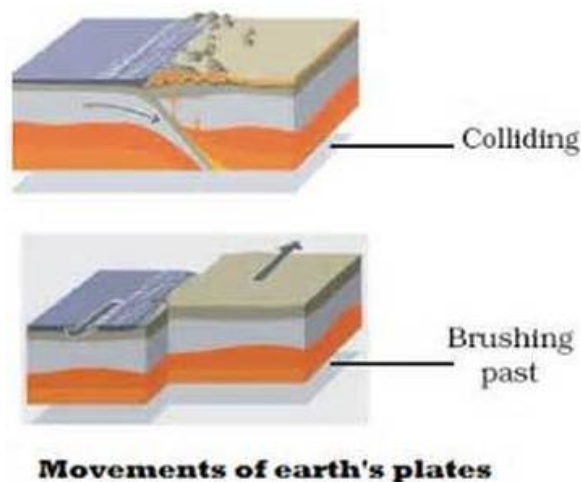
What Causes an Earthquake?



- The outer layer of Earth (crust) is broken into big pieces called tectonic plates.
- These plates are constantly moving, although very slowly.



Earthquakes happen when:

- Plates collide, slide, or move apart.



- Stress builds up at the edges and when it becomes too much,
→ Energy is suddenly released in the form of vibrations → causing an earthquake.
-  The place inside Earth where the earthquake starts = Focus.
-  The point directly above it on the surface = Epicentre.
- The strongest vibrations are felt at the epicentre.

Measuring Earthquakes

- Richter scale measures earthquake strength.
- Magnitude >7 = severe damage
- Tremors recorded using seismograph

✓ Example:

- Bhuj and Kashmir quakes >7.5

—

Earthquake Safety

 If Indoors:

- Take shelter under table
- Stay away from windows, shelves
- Don't rush out

 If Outdoors:

- Move to open area
- Stay away from trees, poles
- If in a vehicle — stay inside till shaking stops

✓ Quake-safe Building Tips:

- Use light materials (mud/timber)
- Fix cupboards/shelves to walls
- Keep emergency/fire equipment ready