

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?
- 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.
- 3** Using the map on pages 6–7, create a timeline of the natural disasters.
- 4** Choose three pictures that haven't got captions and write your own.
- 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.
- 6** The book uses a mixture of drawn illustrations and photographs. Write a pro and a con for each style.
- 7** Using the contents, glossary and main text, write a fact file about one of the natural disasters.

- 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.
- 9 Create a warning poster about the natural disaster that you think was the most shocking and/or tragic.
- 10 Add to your timeline any dates and events that aren't included in the map.

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