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Volcanoes and earthquakes

What are volcanoes and earthquakes like?

What is this unit about?

This unit explains how movements in the earth's crust can cause both volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. It also looks at how these natural hazards may bring danger to people and cause severe damage to property and the surroundings.

In this unit you will learn about:

- ◆ the distribution of volcanoes and earthquakes
- ◆ their causes and effects
- ◆ the different ways in which countries respond to these natural hazards
- ◆ how the dangers may be reduced.

Why is learning about volcanoes and earthquakes important?

Almost every year we hear about a volcanic eruption or earthquake that causes severe damage and loss of life. This unit will help you understand why these disasters happen and what effects they can have. It will also show you how poor countries struggle to cope with these hazards and how they need help to save lives and limit the more damaging effects.

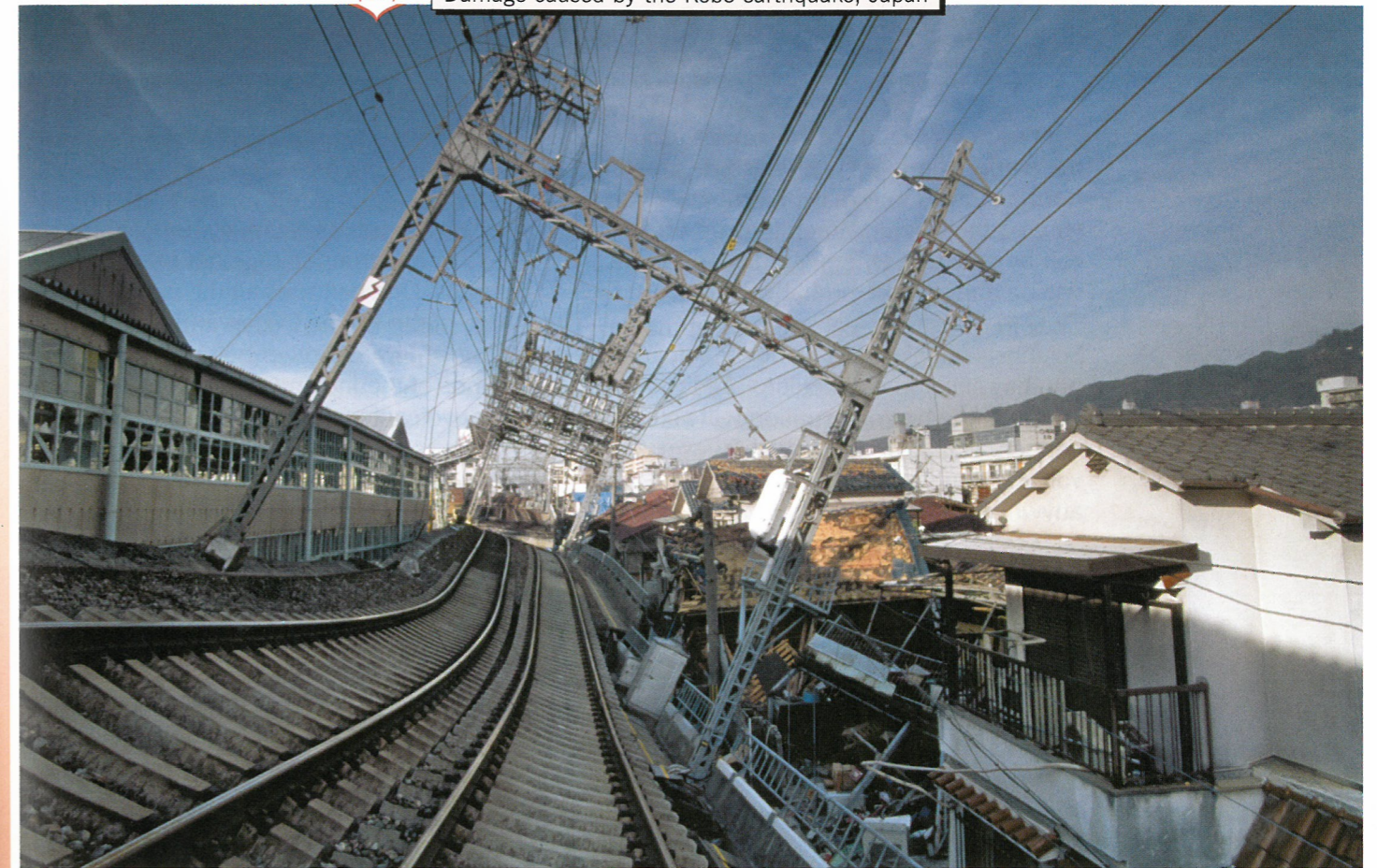
This unit will help you to:

- ◆ develop an interest in volcanoes and earthquakes
- ◆ be aware of the problems that a disaster causes
- ◆ understand what can be done to reduce the worst effects
- ◆ know how to prepare for and cope with natural hazards.

A Mount Vesuvius and Naples, Italy



B Damage caused by the Kobe earthquake, Japan



C Kilauea, Hawaii



- ◆ What is happening in photo A? What problems may this cause? What would you do if you and your family lived here?
- ◆ What has happened in photo B? How will people be affected? What would need to be done immediately after the event and in the months ahead?
- ◆ Describe how you would feel if you were the helicopter pilot in photo C.