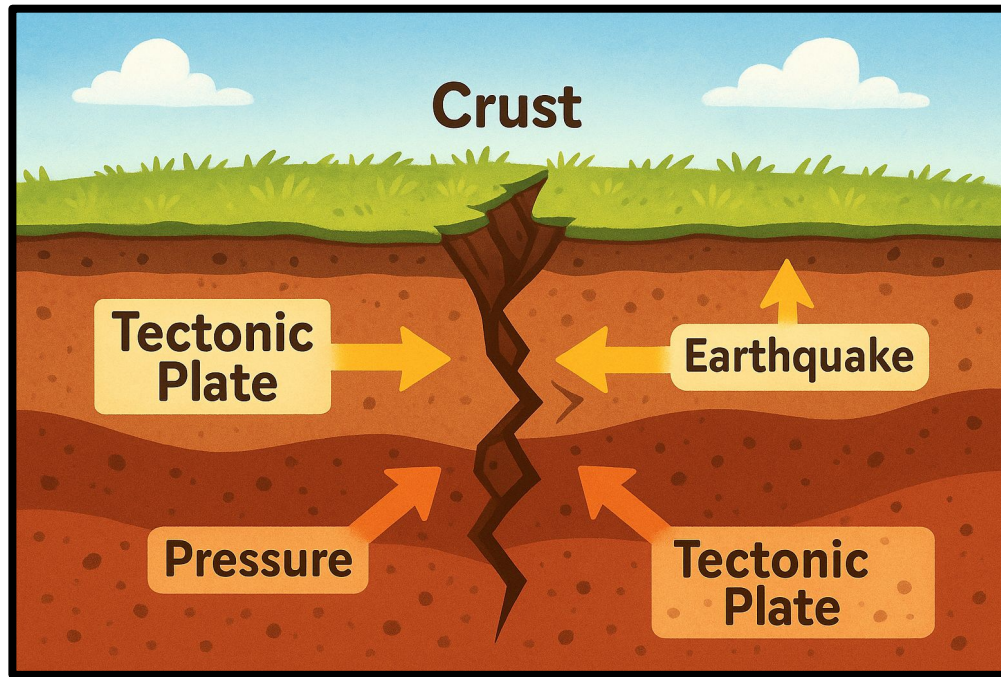


# Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Compare Pictures vs. Words

Read the short story and answer each question.



## What Causes Earthquakes?

Earthquakes happen when parts of Earth's crust move. The crust is the outer layer of the Earth. It is made of big pieces called **tectonic plates**.

Sometimes these plates press together or slide past each other. This builds up **pressure** under the ground.

When the pressure gets too strong, the plates shift suddenly. This causes the ground to shake. That shaking is an earthquake.

Earthquakes can be small or strong. They can shake buildings and change the shape of the land.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## What Causes Earthquakes?

1. What might the illustration show that the text describes?

- A. A map of stars
- B. Two tectonic plates moving and shaking the ground
- C. A tall volcano
- D. A machine that makes cookies

2. What does the text tell you that the picture might NOT show?

- A. That pressure builds up before the ground shakes
- B. What color tectonic plates are
- C. How to stop earthquakes
- D. Where the moon goes

3. Fill in the blank:

Earthquakes happen when parts of Earth's crust move because of built-up \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What did you learn from the words about how tectonic plates cause earthquakes?

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5. How might the picture help you better understand where and how the shaking happens?

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# Parent and Teacher Guide

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**Guide Reading Level:** J

**Lexile Level:** 290L-450L

**Grade Level:** 1st Grade, End of the Year

**Genre:** Informational Text (Earth Science)

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## Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read about what causes earthquakes. As we read, we'll notice how the **text** gives us detailed explanations and how the **illustration** helps us see what's happening below Earth's surface. We'll practice thinking about how the words and picture work together."

**Vocabulary:** earthquake, crust, tectonic plates, pressure, shake

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## Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. Have you heard of an earthquake before?
  2. What do you think causes the ground to shake?
  3. How do diagrams help explain science?
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## During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do tectonic plates do under the ground?
  2. What builds up before the earthquake?
  3. What would you expect to see in the illustration?
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## After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What does the picture show that helped you understand the text better?
  2. What part of the passage helped you understand what the picture shows?
  3. Why is it important to use both words and visuals to understand science?
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## Activity Idea

Students create a "Before and After Earthquake" drawing. On the left, they draw two tectonic plates pushing together. On the right, they draw the result of the shift and label what changed. Then they write one sentence from the text and one based on what the picture shows.

