# TSUNAMIS



#### WHAT IS A TSUNAMI?

- A tsunami is a huge wave or wall of water.
- Tsunamis can cause a large amount of damage to coastal areas.



## CAUSES

- Tsunamis are usually caused by volcanic eruptions or underwater earthquakes.
- Large waves form from the force of the eruption or earthquake.
- The waves flow straight and very fast.
- Waves can reach up to 100 feet in the air!

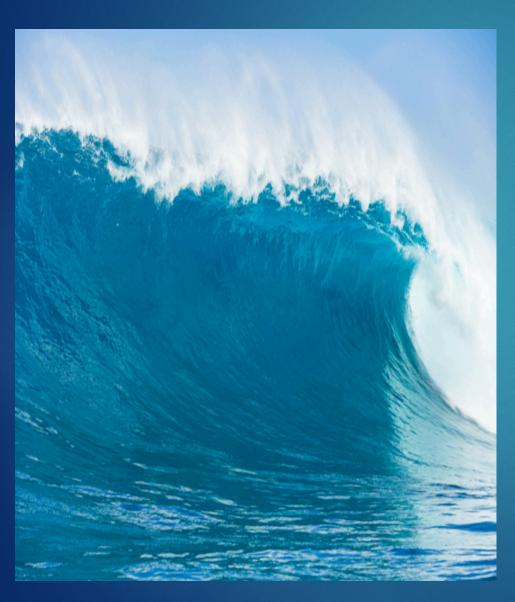


**UNDERWATER VOLCANOES** 



**UNDERWATER EARTHQUAKES** 

#### CHARACTERISTICS



Huge waves

Moves fast

Very destructive

### DESTRUCTION

- Buildings can collapse
- Flooding can occur
- Trees and power lines can fall
- People can get injured or lose their life



## SAFETY

- Have a disaster plan.
- Know a safe route to evacuate.
- Prepare a disaster supply kit.



Evacuate immediately if told to do so.



#### INTERESTING FACTS

- Tsunami's mean "great harbor wave" in Japanese.
- There are usually 2 tsunamis in the world every year.
- Most tsunamis happen in "The Ring of Fire". This area is in the Pacific Ocean where earthquakes and volcanic eruptions often take place.
- States in the U.S. that are at the greatest risk for tsunamis are Hawaii, Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California.

