

| Earthquakes

Read about earthquakes. Then label the fault diagram and learn how to stay safe.

Earth's crust is broken into huge pieces called **tectonic plates** that move very slowly. A crack where rock moves is a **fault**. When rock along a fault suddenly slips, it sends out **seismic waves** that shake the ground: an **earthquake**. It starts underground at the **focus**. The spot on the surface right above the focus is the **epicentre**.

① Label the diagram. Use the word bank.

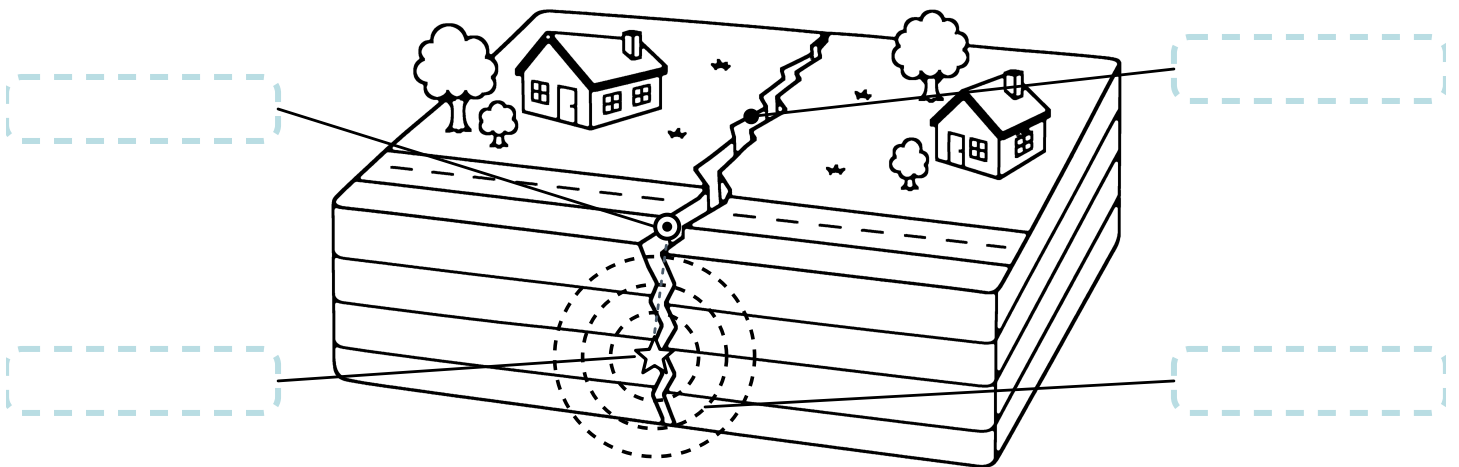
WORD BANK

fault

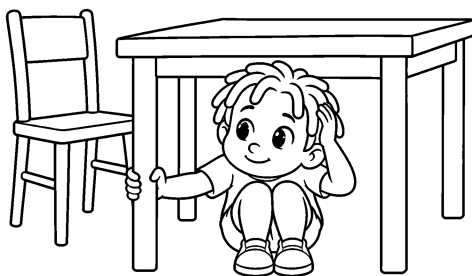
focus

epicentre

seismic waves



② Stay safe in an earthquake. Write Drop, Cover or Hold on for each step.



Get under a sturdy table or desk and protect your head and neck.



Get down onto your hands and knees before the shaking knocks you down.



Hold on to the table leg and stay put until the shaking stops.

③ Explain.

- Many of Canada's strongest earthquakes happen off the coast of British Columbia. Use the words **plates** and **fault** to explain why.