

Class 6b: Earthquakes

Earthquake basics

- Stress relief via crust movement
- 500,000 per year; 800 felt

Earthquake basics

- *Hypocenter:*
- *Epicenter:*

Earthquake energy

- Waves of energy traveling through the earth
- Primary or *P-wave*

Earthquake energy

- Secondary or *S-wave*

Richter scale

- Measures magnitude via amplitude (height) of the seismic waves

World's largest quakes

- Always at subduction zones

California's largest quakes

We're overdue!

- Can't yet predict quakes, but...

Earthquake effects

- "Earthquakes don't kill people, buildings do"

Tsunamis

- Land displaced underwater (quake or slide)

Tsunami: Sumatra

Tsunami: Sumatra

Tsunamis in the U.S.?