

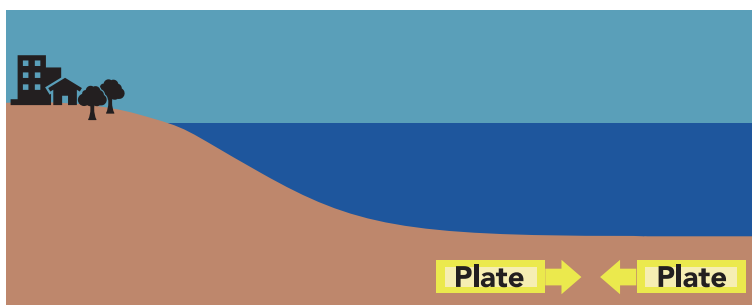
What is a Tsunami?

How Do Tsunamis Occur?

Tsunamis Caused by Earthquakes

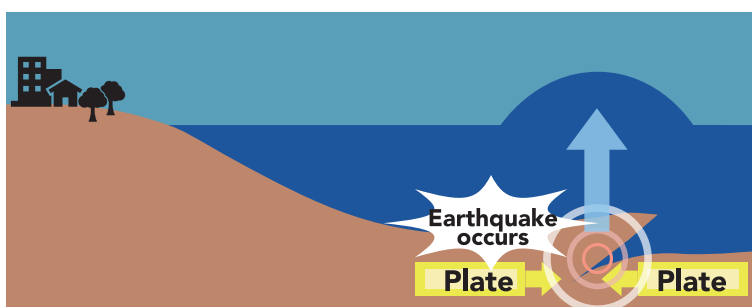
1 An earthquake occurs.

The Earth's surface is covered by plates. These plates are constantly moving, colliding, sliding past each other, and subducting under each other. Earthquakes are caused by the force generated when these massive rock plates collide.



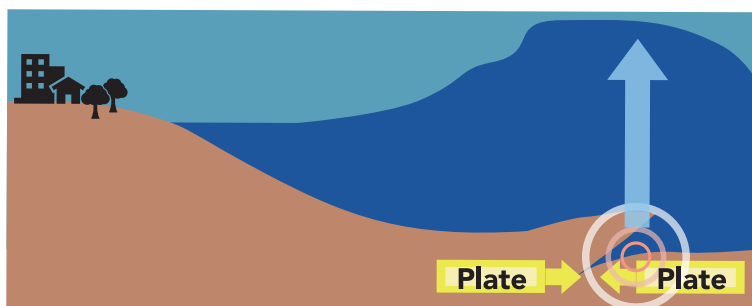
2 The earthquake moves the seafloor, pushing up the seawater.

An earthquake moves the seafloor, and this movement displaces the seawater, causing a tsunami.



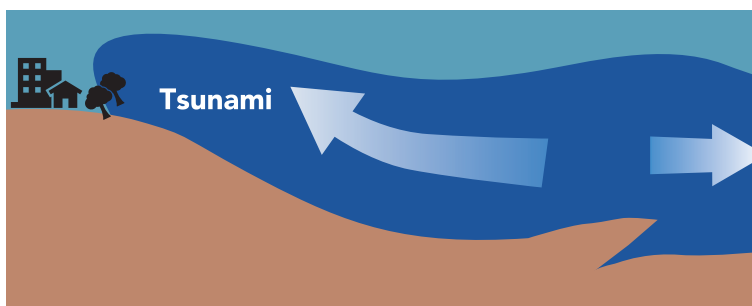
3 It travels as a large wave.

The sea surface changes in response to this seafloor movement, creating a large wave that spreads out in all directions.



4 A mass of seawater surges ashore.

The tsunami surges toward the coast. The entire body of water, from the sea surface to the seabed, moves as one solid mass.



*It is known that tsunamis can also be caused by events such as submarine volcanic eruptions.