

# Natural Disasters

**natural disaster** - catastrophic event caused by the forces of nature

**wildfire** - uncontrollable fires that start in grass or forests

**flood** - water covers parts of the earth's surface which usually don't have water

**drought** - no rain for a long period of time

**earthquake** - when the ground shakes

**tsunami** - a giant wave

**hurricane** - spiralling tropical storm with heavy rains and fast winds

**tornado** - a spinning funnel of wind

**volcanic eruption** - when a volcano explodes

**avalanche** - when snow falls down a mountain

**landslide** - when mud/dirt/debris falls down a mountain

## **Homework:**

Choose one natural disaster from the list above to write about. Write a paragraph about it (at least six sentences). What causes it? What kinds of places does it happen in? Is there a scale scientists use to measure it? What kind of problems can it cause for humans?