

5 **VOCABULARY** Check the meaning of all the natural disasters below in your dictionary.

Natural disasters avalanche drought earthquake  
epidemic famine flood forest fire  
mudslide tornado tsunami volcanic eruption

### KEY

**avalanche** a very large amount of snow, ice and rock that falls down the side of a mountain

**drought** a long time when there is not enough rain

**earthquake** a sudden strong shaking of the ground

**epidemic** a disease that many people in a place have at the same time

**famine** a famine happens when there is not enough food in a country

**flood** when there is a flood, a lot of water covers the land

**forest fire** a fire that happens in a large area of land covered with trees

**mudslide** a large amount of soft wet earth sliding down a mountain

**tornado** a violent storm with very strong winds which move in a circle.

**tsunami** a very large wave in the sea, usually caused by the sudden strong shaking of the ground

**volcanic eruption** when a volcano (a mountain with a hole in the top where fire, gas, and liquid rock, called lava, sometimes come out) erupts, the burning rocks, etc. are thrown out from the volcano