

Grade 7 Vocabulary

Use of Vocabulary Words in Context

Week 11

Directions: Read the passage below to better understand the vocabulary words.

Vocabulary Words

aftershocks

jolted

epicenter

tremors

deluge

collapse

surge

magnitude

seismological

dazed

rubble

boulders

debris

footage

scrambling

Hint: When learning new terms, look for context clues to help determine the meaning. If the sentence you find the word in is not helpful, keep reading to see if it can be understood.

Experiencing an Earthquake

I was **jolted** awake by a dish crashing to the ground. I thought someone must be in the house, but as I stood up, I could feel slight **tremors**. I was still a little **dazed** since it was the middle of the night, but knew I needed to make sure we were all safe. I gathered the family to get to someplace safe. We were all **scrambling** around and remembered that under something solid like a table was safe when you could not leave the area. As we sat huddled together, the shaking started. A **surge** of adrenaline shot through my body. I worried that the entire house would **collapse** or **debris** could fall around the house. After the worst of the shaking passed, we had to suffer through some minor **aftershocks**.

We were lucky, we were actually 30 miles from the **epicenter** of the **magnitude** 6 earthquake. We lost power for most of the day, but when it was restored, we sat around watching **footage** of the damage and listening to the **seismological** information being shared. Some homes had been reduced to **rubble** and others had suffered from a **deluge** of water and other items hitting their property. One home was flattened when two different **boulders** fell from a mountain. The damage would take months to fully repair. I hope I never have to experience another earthquake, but I will be more prepared next time if I do.

