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Earth Science Investigation
Japan Earthquake- 3/11/2011

Name: _____
Period: _____ Date: _____

Watch a news station like CNN, and/or use the internet to investigate the following questions:

1) Find out the exact location (latitude, longitude) of the quake: _____

Locate the epicenter on p5 of your reference and place an X there.

2) What was the magnitude of the quake? _____ What does that mean?

3) What causes earthquakes like this?

4) Why do you think the earthquake occurred there? Include names for any motions/processes taking place, names of plates, what the plates are doing below the surface and relative to each other etc. Include drawings or pictures that illustrate your answer.

5) Name 2 consequences of the earthquake resulting in loss of life or significant property damage. Which one caused the most devastating results? Why do you think this is so?

6) Even though many people will die and the loss of property staggering, a far more number survived because the Japanese are constantly looking for ways to better prepare for such an event. Research some of the things they are doing to reduce loss of life and property damage.

7) After watching some of the footage and reading about it, what do you see as the top 5 major issues that have to be dealt with after the quake is over?

8) What is a tsunami?

How was Friday's Japanese tsunami produced? (Drawing optional)

10) Where are we at with respect to being able to predict earthquakes?

How about tsunamis?

*11) Compare and contrast this quake/tsunami disaster to the Indonesian one back in 2004.