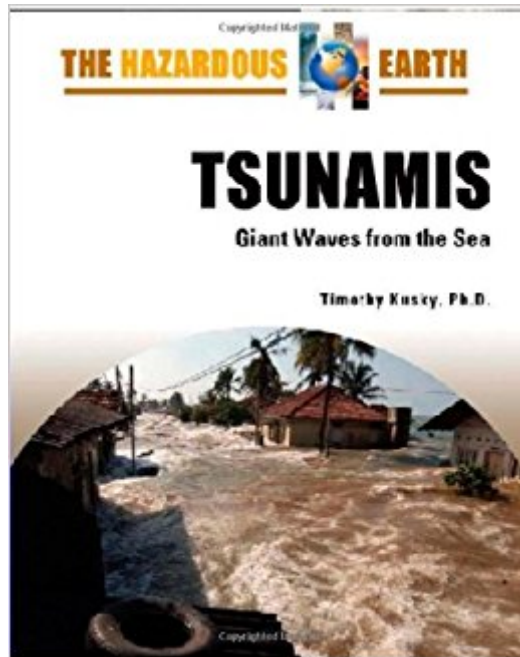


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Tsunamis: Giant Waves From The Sea (Hazardous Earth)



Synopsis

'The Hazardous Earth' series comprehensively explains natural hazards and disasters, along with the geological processes behind them and what can be done to minimize their effects. Included are sidebars, tables and further resources to help students with their research.

Book Information

Series: Hazardous Earth

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Customer Reviews

Redundant subtitle notwithstanding, this detailed study of the causes and physics of massive waves covers not only the oceanic sort but also similar phenomena, seiches, that occur in closed bodies of water. Whether brought about by earthquakes, underwater landslides, storms, volcanic eruptions, meteorites, or the sudden release of trapped gases, these waves are hugely destructive—not least because, contrary to popular belief, they usually hit shorelines not one at a time but in trains, with crests that can be an hour apart. After analyzing tsunamis' various forms and behaviors, Kusky delivers harrowing accounts of over a dozen disasters, from those centuries past to the devastating Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004. He then closes with a discussion of early-warning systems.

Occasional photos capture the devastation of which these waves are capable, charts and diagrams show wave structures, and extensive resource lists will effectively kick-start serious research.

Written by a professor who studies geological disasters, this entry in the Hazardous Earth series makes a sturdy addition to collections designed to support strong science instruction. Grades 8-11.

--John Peters

Timothy Kusky, Ph.D., is currently assistant professor at St. Louis University in the department of Earth and atmospheric sciences.

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