***Natural Disasters – Year 6 Geography Knowledge Organiser***



***Key Dates/Case Studies***

Case studies with a focus on North America – discuss environmental regions.

- Mt. St Helens volcano (1980)

- Yellowstone fires (1988)

- New Orleans/Hurricane Katrina (2005)

- Hurricane Harvey (2017)

- California earthquakes (2019)

- Yellowstone Supervolcano

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***Key Vocabulary***

Natural disaster – a natural event (such as a flood, earthquake, volcano etc.) that causes a great deal of damage or loss of life.

Earthquake – a violent shaking of the ground due to a sudden shift of tectonic plates, typically causing great damage.

Tectonic plates – plates of solid rock under the Earth’s surface, under immense pressure.

Volcanic eruption – a violent discharge of steam and volcanic material.

Dormant – in an inactive state (a dormant volcano is one that isn’t erupting)

Flood – an overflow of water above normal levels, especially over what is normally dry land

Hurricane – a storm with a violent wind

Cyclone – a system of winds rotating towards lands

Typhoon – a tropical storm in the region of India or Western Pacific oceans

***Key Questions***

What is a natural disaster?

What causes natural disasters to occur?

How are the Americans prepared for future disasters? What safety measures have been put in place?

How did a particular natural disaster impact the people who lived there?

What happened before/after the disaster occurred?

Which tectonic plates shifted for the earthquakes in California to happen?

What is the difference between hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons?