

Lesson Plan: "Tsunami: The Giant Wave!"

Age Group: 5 years and up

Duration: 30-40 minutes

Objective:

By the end of this lesson, students will understand what tsunamis are, how they form, and how to stay safe if there is a tsunami warning.

Materials Needed:

- Video Tutorial by DiscoverlifeSkills.com: "Tsunami: The Giant Wave!"
 - World map to show regions prone to tsunamis
 - Visual aids (diagrams of how tsunamis form, images of tsunamis)
 - Space for movement activities and tsunami safety drills
 - Coloring materials for a follow-up activity
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Introduction (5 minutes):

1. Greeting & Warm-up Discussion:

- Start by asking students if they know what a wave is.
- Introduce the concept of a tsunami: "A tsunami is like a giant wave, much bigger than the waves we see at the beach."

2. Introduce the Topic:

- "Today, we're going to learn all about tsunamis! We'll find out what causes them, how fast they can move, and what we can do to stay safe if one happens."
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Main Activity (15-20 minutes):

1. Watch the Video (5 minutes):

- Play the video tutorial "Tsunami: The Giant Wave."
- Before watching, ask the students to think about what causes tsunamis.

2. Discussion after the Video (5-7 minutes):

- Recap the key points from the video:
 - **What causes tsunamis?** (Earthquakes, underwater landslides, or volcanic eruptions)
 - **How fast can a tsunami move?** (As fast as a jet airplane)
 - **What happens when a tsunami reaches land?** (It can cause floods and damage homes and buildings)
 - **How do scientists help keep people safe?** (By detecting tsunamis and giving warnings)

Key Points to Reinforce:

- Tsunamis are large waves caused by sudden movements under the ocean.
- They travel very fast and can reach faraway places.
- It's important to listen to warnings and know what to do if a tsunami happens.

Activity: Tsunami Simulation and Safety Drill (10-15 minutes):

1. Tsunami Movement Game (5 minutes):

- **Instructions:** Pretend the classroom floor is the ocean. Have the students act out the movement of a tsunami:
 - First, they "sleep" on the floor like calm water.
 - Then, you call out an "earthquake" or "volcanic eruption," and they jump up, pretending to be a fast-moving tsunami (running in place).
 - Finally, they "reach land" and freeze, showing how a tsunami hits land.

2. Tsunami Safety Drill (5-10 minutes):

- Explain what to do during a tsunami warning: Move to higher ground and stay away from the water.
 - Set up a simple classroom drill:
 - Create a "safe zone" (higher ground) and a "danger zone" (beach area near the water).
 - Practice moving calmly from the "danger zone" to the "safe zone" when a tsunami warning is called out.
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Reflection and Wrap-up (5 minutes):

1. Group Discussion:

- Ask the students: "What should you do if you hear about a tsunami warning?"
- Reinforce the idea of staying calm, listening to warnings, and moving to a safe place.

2. Closing Activity:

- Have students draw a picture of a tsunami and show what they would do to stay safe.
 - Encourage them to share what they learned about tsunamis with their families.
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Extension Ideas:

- **Tsunami Science:** Use a shallow tray of water to demonstrate how waves move when something shakes the "ocean floor" (shake the tray gently and watch the water move).
 - **Tsunami Research:** Learn about real-life tsunamis that have happened in the past and how people prepared for them.
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This lesson teaches young students about tsunamis in a fun and engaging way, helping them understand how these giant waves form and what they can do to stay safe if one occurs.

