

Spotting a Tsunami

8 Before a tsunami strikes, eagle-eyed scientists can spot
19 a few warning signs which may help to save lives. An
28 earthquake can be a warning of a tsunami; tsunamis
39 can cause the ground near the coast to shake for more
50 than twenty seconds at a time and may cause the ocean
60 to pull backwards, leaving bare sand where the sea used
71 to be. There may also be loud, booming noises with no
81 apparent cause. However, it is not just humans who can
92 take notice of these warning signs. Around the time that a
102 tsunami is about to strike, animals can be seen behaving
109 strangely or beginning to leave the area.

119 If any of these signs are spotted, you must immediately
129 move away from coastal areas. Make your way to higher
138 ground as quickly as you can – do not stop.



Quick Questions



1. Find and copy two ways that the author tells the reader to act quickly if they spot a tsunami.

- _____
- _____



2. What are two warning signs that a tsunami could be about to strike?

- _____
- _____



3. Why might someone be tempted to stop on their way to higher ground?



4. Who do you think that this information is for? Explain your answer.

People of the Rainforest

10 We stumbled on them much by chance – spotting a young
21 girl, no older than four, through the clearing in the trees.
32 She merely wore a skirt made from reeds and leaves, and
43 a simple cloth headband to keep the hair from her eyes.
52 We watched as she toddled towards the river – unsteady
64 on her feet, but far steadier than we were. It was clear
70 that she knew this rainforest well.

82 In the river stood a man with a bow and arrow made
91 from forest vines. He stood, knee-high in the flowing
100 torrents, aiming towards the water as silently as a
110 cheetah stalking its prey. With no hesitation, he let the
120 arrow fly and, from beneath the water, he retrieved a
130 humongous tilapia. He passed it to the little girl, who
135 scurried away amongst the trees.



Quick Questions



1. What two things was the girl wearing?



2. '*He stood, knee-high in the flowing torrents...*'
What do you think torrents means in this
sentence?



3. What do you think a 'tilapia' is? Give a reason
for your answer.



4. How do you think the girl's clothing compares to
that of the explorers?
