



Japan has been hit by a Powerful earthquake!

Japan's northern island of Hokkaido has been hit by a powerful earthquake triggering landslides that engulfed houses.

The magnitude 6.7 quake cut power to around three million homes after a thermal power plant was damaged. BBC News reported that the earthquake comes on the heels of Jebi, the strongest typhoon to hit the country in 25 years causing widespread damage and disruption. Authorities have warned of possible aftershocks and urged people to remain cautious.

Japan is one of the most seismically active nations and accounts for 20% of quakes worldwide of magnitude 6.0 or more.



Pictured: An example of the destruction an earthquake can cause.

Water slides with Virtual Reality!



Pictured: A Water slide.

Germany's Therme Erding water park is now offering virtual reality (VR) headsets to riders of its water slides. The VR can transform the ride into one through snowy mountains, outer space or anything in between. The VR slide combines the thrill of waterslides with the technology of virtual reality. The headsets are designed to be comfortable, waterproof and easy to look after. As each rider will travel at different speeds down the slide the system can track their progress to create a more realistic experience for each person. *Is this what you would expect from a water park? Would you like to try it? Let us know what you think!*



Trees that bleed metal!



Pictured: The Island of New Caledonia where the Pycnandra acuminata trees are being studied.

Researchers at the University of Queensland have been studying special trees in the South Pacific called *Pycnandra acuminata*. These trees have evolved to take up the normally toxic metals into their stems, leaves and even seeds. It is thought that the trees may use nickel to defend against insects. It means that the trees latex has a blue-green colour as it contains up to 25% nickel. Some scientists are hopeful that the trees might be used to clean toxic material from soil in polluted areas.

Show us your Picture News Monitors!

We hope your Picture News badges arrived in school and that they have found their new home on your two school Picture News monitors!

We'd love to learn about your school's new monitors and see some pictures, details and information about their new roles and responsibilities in school. Please send through any photos, profiles and reports from your new monitors using our contact details below and you may be our first ever Picture News monitors featured in our paper!

Please note: Any pictures sent through may be used on our social media or feature in this paper. If your Picture News monitor badges didn't arrive, email us and we'll send them through!



Pictured: Picture News monitor badge



YOUR COMMENTS

Email: help@picture-news.co.uk

or post to: Unit 3, Phoenix Business Park, Ripon, North Yorks, HG4 1NS