

# 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?

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

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# Answers



1. Find and copy two ways that the author tells the reader to act quickly if they spot a tsunami.  
**Accept two of: 'immediately move away', 'as quickly as you can' and 'do not stop', or variations thereof.**



2. What are two warning signs that a tsunami could be about to strike?  
**Accept any two signs mentioned within the text such as an earthquake, animals behaving strangely, booming noises and the water receding.**



3. Why might someone be tempted to stop on their way to higher ground?  
**Accept any reasonable inference, such as 'to collect their belongings', 'to gather supplies' or 'to warn other people'.**



4. Who do you think that this information is for? Explain your answer.  
**Accept any reasonable audience, such as 'people who live by the beach' provided that a justification is given, such as 'to warn them of signs to look out for'.**