

The Richter Scale

Size of earthquake	Richter Scale
Great earthquake	more than 8
Major earthquake	between 7 and 7.9
Strong earthquake	between 6 and 6.9
Moderate earthquake	between 5 and 5.9
Light earthquake	between 4 and 4.9
Minor earthquake	between 3 and 3.9
Very minor earthquake	less than 3

The size of an earthquake is measured on the Richter Scale. It uses the numbers 1 - 10 to show the size of an earthquake. As you have already learned, the earthquake is the strongest at the epicentre. So the Richter Scale will show a big number at the epicentre.

A seismograph is used to measure the size of an earthquake. This is how a seismograph looks like.

A seismograph

