

CLASSROOM READY Weekly News

LEVEL 1

www.classroomready.com

WEEK 1 • 2023/24

Earthquake Rattles Morocco

A powerful 6.8-magnitude earthquake struck the country of Morocco on September 8. It is the most powerful quake to hit the region in the last 120 years.

Morocco is located in North Africa. It is just across the Mediterranean Sea from Spain.

The earthquake's **epicentre** was located in the High Atlas Mountains, about 72 kilometres southwest of the city of Marrakesh. It was felt strongly in Marrakesh, which is the fourth-largest city in Morocco. It was also felt in dozens of nearby villages.

The earthquake occurred just after 11 pm local time. The quake caused thousands of stone, brick, and wood buildings to crumble and collapse. Marrakesh is an

ancient city. Many of the buildings were not built to withstand a major earthquake.

That includes many historic **cultural landmarks**. The Koutoubia Mosque in Marrakesh was built in the 12th century. It received damage from the earthquake.

More than 48 hours after the quake, rescue workers continued working around the clock to find and save survivors trapped in the rubble. Many of the victims are in mountain villages that are remote and hard-to-reach. Some of these villages have been completely levelled.

Morocco's King Mohammed VI ordered the country's armed forces to organize rescue efforts and build a **field hospital** to treat the wounded. It is estimated that more than 300 000 people have been directly affected by the quake,

with many displaced from their homes by the damage. Emergency workers are on hand, providing clean water, food, tents, and blankets to help the survivors.

France and Germany have offered aid and the European Union has sent 1 million euros to organizations already in Morocco. Canada has also been in touch with Moroccan leaders to offer aid. ★



DID YOU KNOW

Morocco is home to about 38 million people.

To view videos, go to:
<http://resources.dynamic-classroom.ca/books/ofzo>

Video



07:12:20:01 HD

WORD POWER

EPICENTRE: The point on the Earth's surface directly above the point below the surface where an earthquake started or was the strongest

CULTURAL LANDMARK: A place, often a building or monument, of special cultural and historic importance to a group of people or the world

FIELD HOSPITAL: A temporary hospital set up to provide emergency medical care for people wounded by war or natural disaster

Earthquake Rattles Morocco

1. Where was the earthquake's epicentre?

2. What damaged did the earthquake cause?

3. What did rescue workers do?

4. What did Morocco's king do?

5. Which countries have offered aid?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. Why do you think more wasn't done to prepare for an earthquake?

Map Activity: Morocco

1. Locate and label the following countries in capital letters:

MOROCCO
ALGERIA
FRANCE
ITALY

LIBYA
MALI
MAURITANIA
NIGER

PORTUGAL
SPAIN
TUNISIA
WESTERN SAHARA

2. Locate and label the following cities:

RABAT
ALGIERS
LISBON

MADRID
ROME
TRIPOLI

TUNIS

3. Locate and label the following bodies of salt water:

Atlantic Ocean

Mediterranean Sea

4. Create a colour legend for your map with the following:

Morocco

Other Countries

Salt Water

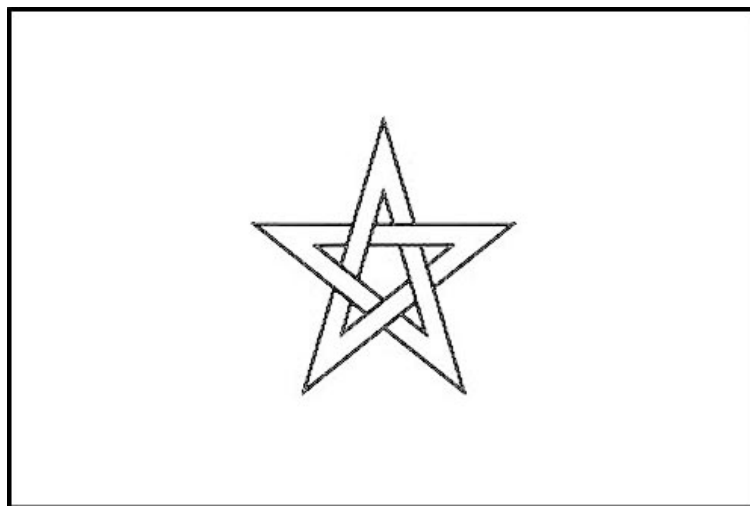
5. Draw and label the compass bearing.

6. Label your map:

Morocco and Neighbouring Countries

7. Colour the flag as follows:

Red with a green pentacle (five pointed, linear star) known as Sulayman's (Solomon's) seal in the centre of the flag.





Word Power

Using the words defined below, fill in the blank in each of the following sentences with the word that fits best. All of the words have been used in the article.

1. Without a plate to support it, the pie began to _____ into pieces.
2. Jason looked at the _____ of the damage that was done.
3. The government offered _____ to anyone affected by the flooding.
4. The _____ needs to be cleared before they can start building the new house.
5. The family was _____ by the fire.

Aid: Something (such as money, food, or equipment) that is given to help the people in a country or area where many people are suffering because of poverty, disease, or a natural disaster.

Collapse: To break apart and fall down suddenly

Crumble: To fall apart into many small pieces

Displaced: Forced to leave an area where you live

Levelled: Knocked down to the ground

Magnitude: The size, extent, or importance of something

Rubble: Broken pieces of materials like stone or brick from walls or buildings that have fallen

Withstand: To not be harmed or affected by something

Quiz

1. Morocco is located in North America.
True False
2. Many of the buildings were not built to withstand a major earthquake.
True False
3. The quake caused _____ of stone, brick, and wood buildings to crumble and collapse.
4. Many of the victims are in mountain _____ that are remote and hard-to-reach.
5. Emergency workers are on hand, providing clean _____, food, tents, and blankets to help the survivors.

Weekly News Answer Key

Earthquake Rattles Morocco

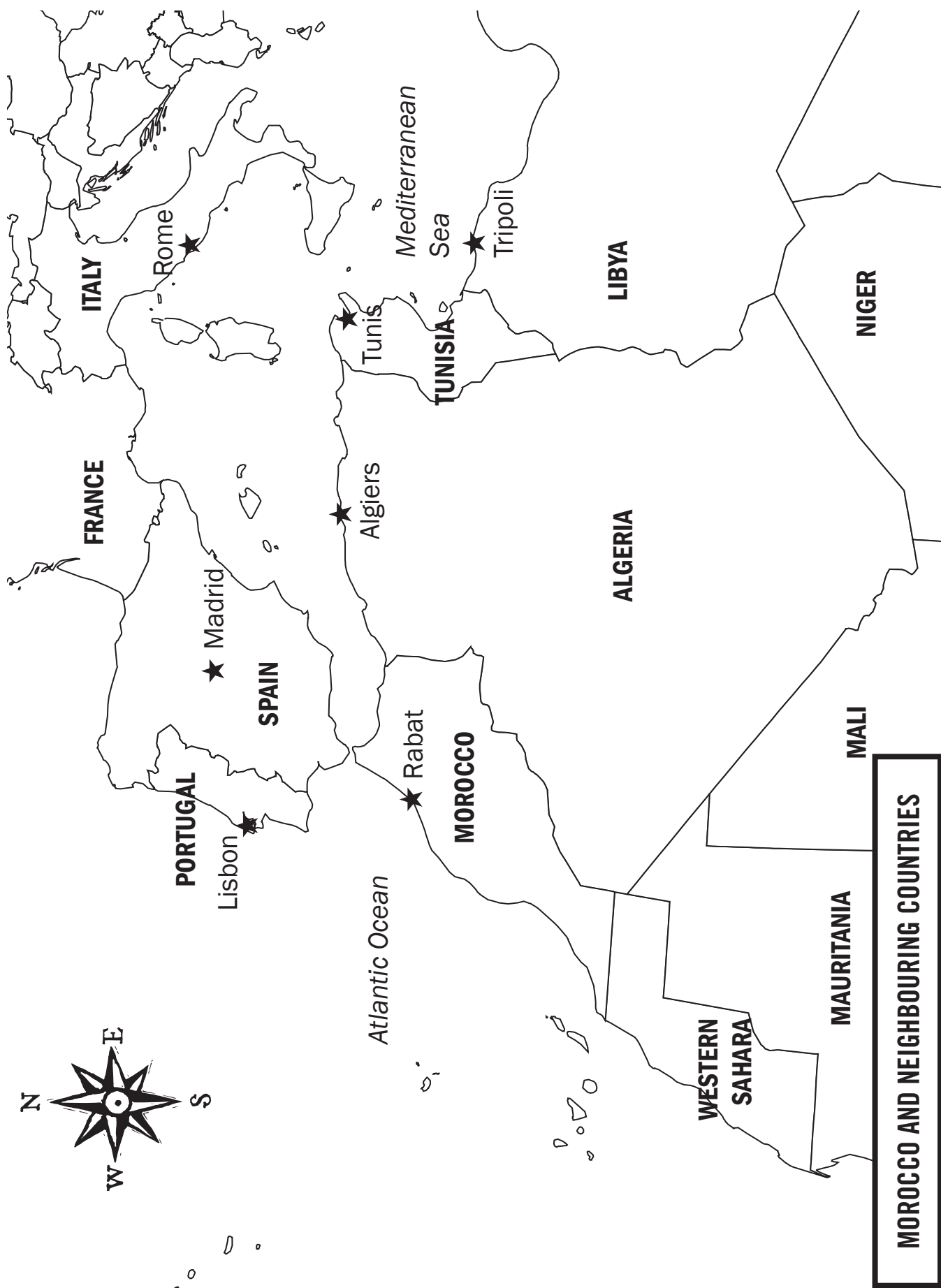
- 1. Where was the earthquake's epicentre?**
The earthquake's epicentre was located in the High Atlas Mountains, about 72 kilometres southwest of the city of Marrakesh.
- 2. What damaged did the earthquake cause?**
The quake caused thousands of stone, brick, and wood buildings to crumble and collapse.
- 3. What did rescue workers do?**
More than 48 hours after the quake, rescue workers continued working around the clock to find and save survivors trapped in the rubble.
- 4. What did Morocco's king do?**
Morocco's King Mohammed VI ordered the country's armed forces to organize rescue efforts and build a field hospital to treat the wounded.
- 5. Which countries have offered aid?**
France and Germany have offered aid and the European Union has sent 1 million euros to organizations already in Morocco. Canada has also been in touch with Moroccan leaders to offer aid.

Word Power

1. crumble
2. magnitude
3. aid
4. rubble
5. displaced

Quiz

- 1. Morocco is located in North America.**
False – North Africa
- 2. Many of the buildings were not built to withstand a major earthquake.**
True
- 3. The quake caused THOUSANDS of stone, brick, and wood buildings to crumble and collapse.**
- 4. Many of the victims are in mountain VILLAGES that are remote and hard-to-reach.**
- 5. Emergency workers are on hand, providing clean WATER, food, tents, and blankets to help the survivors.**



MOROCCO AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES