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# NASA Satellite Sees First High-Res Image of Pacific Tsunami

## Description

A powerful tsunami has been seen from space, changing what scientists understand about how these waves move. This tsunami was caused by a magnitude 8.8 earthquake near Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula in late July.

The Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) satellite, which measures ocean heights, tracked the tsunami in detail. It showed that the wave pattern was more complicated than expected, with energy spreading across the ocean. Researchers believe this could help them understand how tsunamis affect coastlines better.

Angel Ruiz-Angulo from the University of Iceland and his team combined the satellite data with readings from DART buoys in the ocean. They discovered the earthquake was the sixth-largest recorded since 1900. Ruiz-Angulo described the satellite data as a “new pair of glasses” for studying tsunamis.

Scientists had thought large tsunamis did not break apart. However, the new data showed that the wave energy scatters into smaller waves. This finding may change how researchers model tsunami behaviour.

The research team also found differences between earlier tsunami forecasts and what was actually recorded. They updated their models based on new data, which could improve tsunami predictions in the future.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What was the magnitude of the earthquake that caused the tsunami?

- Option: 7.5
- Option: 8.8
- Option: 9.0
- Option: 6.7

2. Which satellite tracked the tsunami in detail?

- Option: Hubble
- Option: SWOT
- Option: Landsat



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Option: GOES

3. What significant feature of the tsunami was recorded by the SWOT satellite?

Option: Energy spread pattern

Option: Height only

Option: Speed only

Option: No data recorded

4. Who is Angel Ruiz-Angulo?

Option: A scientist from NASA

Option: A researcher from the University of Iceland

Option: A tsunami victim

Option: A weather forecaster

5. How many of the largest earthquakes has this earthquake ranked since 1900?

Option: Fourth

Option: Fifth

Option: Sixth

Option: Seventh

6. What comparison did Ruiz-Angulo use to describe the satellite data?

Option: A telescope

Option: A map

Option: A new pair of glasses

Option: A puzzle

### True-False

7. The tsunami was caused by an earthquake near the Kamchatka Peninsula in July.

8. The SWOT satellite only measures ocean temperature.

9. Researchers found that large tsunamis do break apart.

10. This tsunami was the largest tsunami recorded in history.

11. Angel Ruiz-Angulo is associated with the University of Iceland.



12. The findings from this research will not impact future tsunami predictions.

### Gap-Fill

13. A powerful tsunami has been seen from space, changing what scientists understand about how these waves move. This tsunami was caused by a magnitude 8.8 earthquake near \_\_\_\_\_

Kamchatka Peninsula in late July.

14. The Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) satellite tracked the tsunami in detail, showing that the wave pattern was more \_\_\_\_\_ than expected.

15. The earthquake was described as the sixth-largest recorded since \_\_\_\_\_ .

16. Scientists previously believed large tsunamis did not \_\_\_\_\_ apart.

17. The research team updated their models based on new \_\_\_\_\_ .

18. Ruiz-Angulo described the satellite data as a new pair of \_\_\_\_\_ for studying tsunamis.

### Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. 8.8 2. SWOT 3. Energy spread pattern 4. A researcher from the University of Iceland 5. Sixth 6. A new pair of glasses

**True-False:** 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. False

**Gap-Fill:** 13. Russia's 14. complicated 15. 1900 16. break 17. data 18. glasses

### CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

### POST TAG

1. ESL learning
2. esl news
3. Level 2
4. NASA
5. pacific tsunami



6. satellite

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