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It's time to travel  
the world in search  
of danger!

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Hello hazard hunters! My name is Eddie and this is Junko. We love travel and adventure, especially when there's a little bit of danger thrown into the mix!

You can find the meanings of the words in **bold** in the handy glossary on page 78.

Periscope

Water-tight hatch

Swim-fin

Hazard lights

Sonar radar

Ski and rope storage

Wings for flight

All-terrain tracks

Multi-function arms

Well, Eddie says he loves danger, but his reactions sometimes suggest otherwise! There's so much to see on planet Earth, but not all of it is as relaxing as a gentle walk in the park! Earth is alive and the activity going on under the surface, in the air and under water poses a danger to even the strongest human. So to help us on our quest for adventure, we travel with a trusty sidekick - the dangermobile!

LET'S GO!



# AROUND THE WORLD IN 35 DANGERS!

The dangermobile means we can discover natural wonders caused by intense **geothermal** activity, chase extreme weather, dive down to the deepest depths of the sea and get up close and personal with molten **lava**. It'll also protect us in searing heat, freezing cold, mega earthquakes and it's a first line of defence against the most dangerous creatures on Earth!

Danger really is everywhere! This is the route the dangermobile has mapped out for us. You can track our movements, but DO NOT attempt to follow us (unless you too have a dangermobile to help).

EACH STOP ON THE JOURNEY IS COLOUR-CODED ACCORDING TO ITS DANGER CATEGORY:

- EARTH
- AIR
- GEOTHERMAL
- WATER
- ICE
- ANIMAL
- FIRE



# SAN ANDREAS FAULT

The San Andreas Fault is the meeting of two of the huge tectonic plates that make up Earth's surface. The Pacific Plate is moving north, whilst the North American Plate is moving south. This means some parts of the plates grind together and stop each other moving... until the tension becomes too much and they suddenly snap past each other, causing the earth to shake.

Here we are, the first danger site on our tour! This strip of land looks like it's been sliced open, but planet Earth has lots of lumps and bumps so what's so dangerous about this... WOAHH, hang on, why is the ground shaking, Eddie? This can mean only one thing: EARTHQUAKE!

These two plates on Earth's surface move a distance of around 5 cm (2 in) each year.

When an earthquake hits it can cause buildings to topple over - a San Andreas quake in 1906 devastated the city of San Francisco.

## DANGER STATS

LOCATION: CALIFORNIA, USA

DANGER: EARTHQUAKES

DANGER CATEGORY: EARTH

FAULT LENGTH: APPROX. 1,300 KM (810 MI)

LAST BIG QUAKE: 2004, NEAR PARKFIELD

CURRENT RISK OF A BIG QUAKE: HIGH



# DEATH VALLEY

Prepare yourself, Junko - we've stepped out of the dangermobile and into an oven. Welcome to the hottest place in the world! This long valley is surrounded by high mountains, which means the superheated winds swirl around with no escape and the desert floor is scorched by the Sun.

At 58 m (190 ft) below sea level, the area of Furnace Creek holds the record for the highest air temperature in the world: 56.7°C (134°F). This is because air warms up and dries out as it flows down from the mountains and combines with the heat from the valley floor. The valley was named Death Valley in 1849 by a group of people who thought the extreme environment would surely kill them.

With a top surface temperature of 93.3°C (199.9°F), we could almost boil the water in this bottle!

## DANGER STATS

LOCATION: CALIFORNIA, USA

DANGER: EXTREME HEAT

DANGER CATEGORY: AIR

TOP DAYTIME TEMPERATURE: 56.7°C (134°F)

TOP NIGHTTIME TEMPERATURE: 43°C (109°F)

VALLEY LENGTH: 225 KM (140 MI)

The summer of 1996 saw 40 consecutive days over 49°C (120°F). Yikes - that's some heatwave!



# GLOSSARY

Acidic	A substance that is typically a harmful liquid.
Boiling point	The temperature at which a liquid boils and turns to vapour.
Carbon dioxide	A gas that is naturally present in the air, and breathed out by humans.
Category five hurricane	The strongest form of hurricane as measured on the Saffir-Simpson wind scale. It has wind speeds of over 252 km/h (157 mph).
Chemical	A substance, relating to the study of chemistry.
Cinders	The ashes from a fire, usually small pieces of coal or wood.
Crystallize	When a substance forms crystals.
Decompose	When organic matter breaks down into smaller components.
Dense	When a substance is closely compacted with particles.
Equator	A line around the planet that divides it into the northern and southern hemispheres.
Evaporate	To turn from liquid into vapour.
Fissure	A long, narrow crack in the earth.
Fjord	A long, narrow inlet of sea water between high cliffs.
Geothermal	Relating to or produced by the internal heat of planet Earth.
Glacier	A slow-moving, enormous mass of ice.
Humid	When the air holds a lot of water vapour.

Lava	Hot, molten rock that has reached Earth's surface.
Magma	Hot, fluid rock that is under Earth's surface.
Mineral	A solid, naturally occurring substance made of one or more elements.
Prehistoric	Reference to a time before written records.
Salinity	The saltiness or amount of salt dissolved in a body of water.
Sonar	A system for detecting objects under water by sending out pulses and measuring their return.
Summit	The highest point of a mountain.
Tectonic plates	The solid pieces that together make up Earth's surface.
Tidal	Relating to the tides, which are the rising and falling of the sea level twice a day.
Titanium	A hard, silver metal that is known for its strength and light weight.
Toxic	A poisonous substance.
Turbulence	Unsteady movement of air or water.
Updraught	An upward current of air.
Vent	An opening that allows gas or liquid to escape from a small space.
Xenophyophore	Large single-celled organisms living on the ocean floor.