Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Multimedia

Videos, photographs and interactive features documenting the destruction in Japan after a powerful earthquake and tsunami devastated the country on March 11.

The Nuclear Power Plant

Status of the Nuclear Reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant
None of the six reactors at the plant have operated since the earthquake.

Hazards of Storing Spent Fuel
Dangerous conditions can occur if water drains from pools storing radioactive fuel rods.

How a Reactor Shuts Down and What Happens in a Meltdown
The operating reactors at Fukushima Daiichi power station automatically shut down during the earthquake.

Radiation Risk

Explosion at reactor No. 2

Radiation Levels Around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant
Daily readings from monitoring stations located near the power plant.

Radiation at Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant
Levels of radioactivity measured by Tokyo Electric Power at different points around the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

The Evacuation Zones Around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant
The American Embassy recommended that Americans within 50 miles of the Fukushima reactors evacuate.

Tsunami and Earthquake Aftermath

Map of the Damage From the Japanese Earthquake
An interactive map and photographs of places in Japan that

How Shifting Plates Caused the Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan
The sudden movement of the Pacific tectonic plate under the

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were damaged by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

North American plate caused a massive earthquake and a tsunami.

Photography

The Destruction and Aftermath
Photos of the unfolding disaster in Japan.

Satellite Photos of Japan, Before and After the Quake and Tsunami
Move the slider to compare satellite images, taken by GeoEye, from before and after the disaster.

A Closer Look at the Damage From the Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan
Zoom in on the images below and examine scenes of the destruction in Japan.

Video

Video reports on the humanitarian toll and the continuing nuclear crisis in Japan.