



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

Proof 5

CHAPTER 2

Walls of Water 11

CHAPTER 3

What Is a Wave? 17

CHAPTER 4

Not Just a Big Wave 23

CHAPTER 5

Danger 29

CHAPTER 6

Hot Spot 35

CHAPTER 7

The Three Sisters 41

CHAPTER 8

Still Learning 47

GLOSSARY

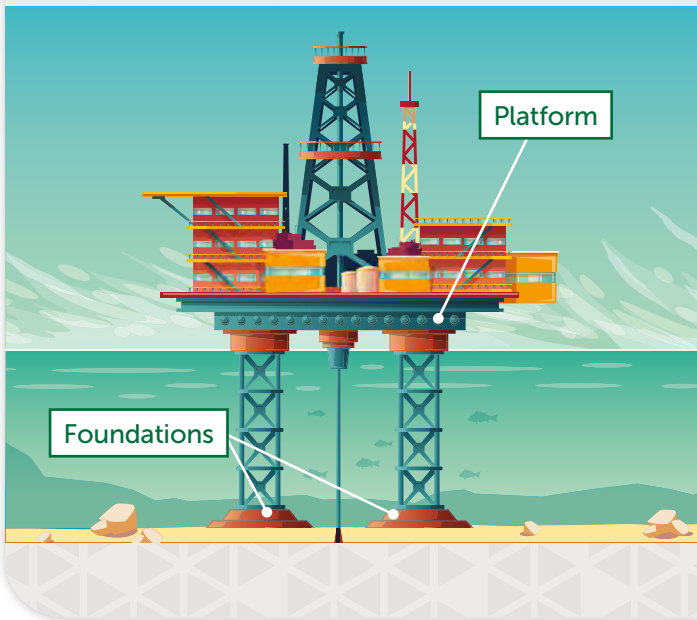
52

PROOF

It was January 1, 1995. Workers were on an oil rig. This was in the North Sea. The water can get very **choppy** there. That day, the sea got rough. A huge wave rose. It crashed into the rig.

Draupner Oil Rig

This is a diagram of the Draupner oil-drilling rig that was hit by a rogue wave on January 1, 1995. A laser detector on its platform was able to determine the wave was 85 feet tall.



The oil rig had a tool. It could measure waves. This big wave was about 85 feet high. There were other waves. But they were much smaller. They were less than half that size. Damage had occurred. Only a giant wave could have done that. Where did it come from? Why was it so tall? No one knew.

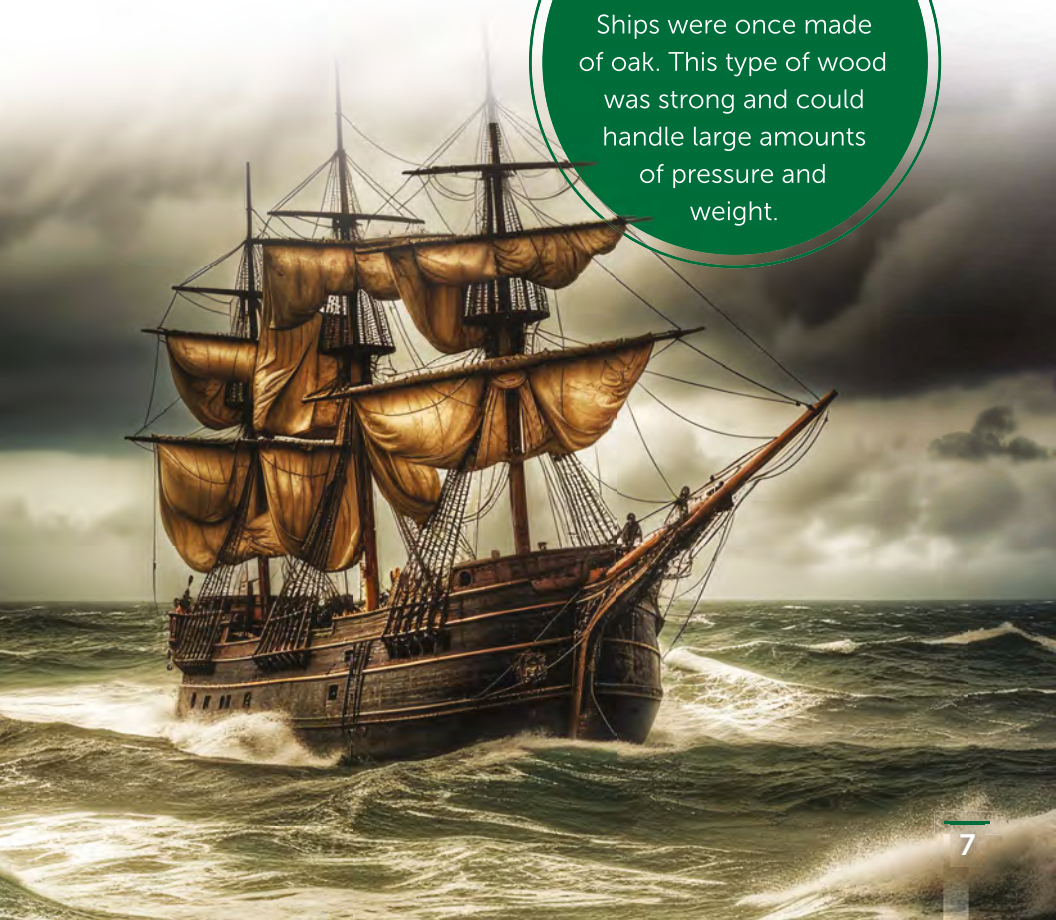
Ships sail the seas. They have for a long time. Sailors have told stories. Some were about monster waves. No one was sure if they were real. But some ships never came back. What happened to them? People wondered.

Early ships were made of wood. They sailed well. But wood can be broken. Some of these ships sank. Few sailors survived. What happened was often a mystery.



Fast Fact

Ships were once made of oak. This type of wood was strong and could handle large amounts of pressure and weight.



Time passed. Ships were made stronger. More sailors lived through storms. They told what they saw. Many talked of huge waves. These seemed to come out of nowhere.



Most people did not believe the stories. They thought the sailors were lying. But the 1995 wave changed minds. How? Now there was proof. Giant waves were real.





Scene from the movie *The Perfect Storm*, which tells the story of a ship lost at sea in 1991

Scientists took notice. Other people did too. These waves could have sunk ships. They might explain some past **shipwrecks**.

Experts met. Information was shared. New questions were asked. Then studies began. The big waves got a name. They were called **rogue** waves.

