

Preparing for Earthquakes

Grades 1-3
Reproducible Master

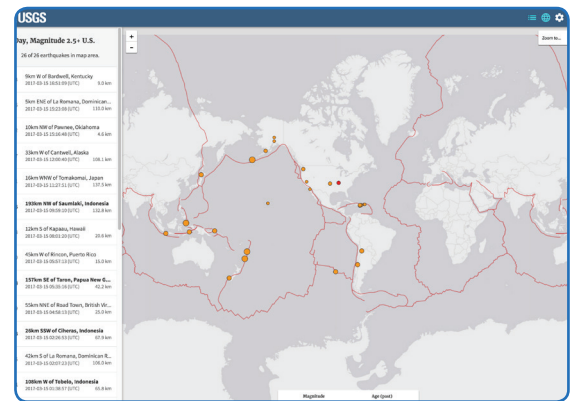
Hi! I'm Greta. Earthquakes happen when gigantic slabs of rock under the Earth's surface rub together and bump each other. That's what causes the ground to shake. Want to learn more? Download **Monster Guard**. It's a free app from the American Red Cross that teaches kids how to be prepared for emergencies. Choose "Earthquake" on the main menu to join me on a training mission. You'll learn how to help make a home earthquake-ready. **Note:** You must have completed the **Monster Guard** Initiation section before you can access the Earthquake training mission.

My Earthquake Safety Score: _____



Part 1

Scientists call the gigantic pieces of rock that cause most earthquakes *tectonic plates*. The tectonic plates fit together like the pieces of a puzzle. They form the outer layer of the Earth. But unlike the pieces of a puzzle, tectonic plates move and shift position. That causes the edges of the plates to be pushed together or pulled apart. This usually happens so slowly that we can't feel it. But when the edges get caught on each other, pressure builds up at that spot. Then, one day, the two edges break free. When that happens, we feel an earthquake.



Earthquakes happen every day. Visit <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/map> for a map that shows where earthquakes have happened today. The red lines on the map mark the edges of the tectonic plates. Use the "Zoom to" button to look at the whole world. Then use the map to answer these questions about the earthquakes that happened today

1. How many of today's earthquakes happened at the borders between tectonic plates? _____
2. How many of today's earthquakes happened far away from the borders between tectonic plates? _____
Where did they happen? _____
3. How many of today's earthquakes happened in the United States? _____

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Part 2

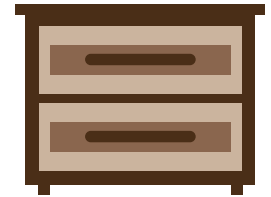
Do you remember your earthquake safety training? Show what you learned by circling the items that need to be secured to make a home earthquake ready because they could fall.



bookshelves



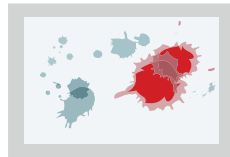
bed



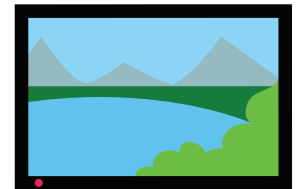
dresser



chair



picture



television

Part 3

The **Monster Guard** needs your help! You know what to do when an earthquake begins:

1. **DROP** to the floor.
2. Take **COVER** under a table or strong piece of furniture, and cover your head with one hand.
3. **HOLD ON** to your cover so that it doesn't shake away.

Share what you know by creating an earthquake safety poster on the back of this sheet. Be sure to use the words **Drop**, **Cover** and **Hold On**!

Replay the
Monster Guard
Earthquake training
mission. See if you
can score higher!

