

**Video question script, KS2: Optional activity: How to survive an earthquake**

Question/Activity	Likely response	Rationale
When teaching about the Earth we often use practical activities to explore Earth processes. This is a brief video clip of an earthquake drill.		
Before showing the clip, ask what pupils think kills people in an earthquake.	They will usually mention falling into cracks in the ground, but this is rarely the case. The main causes are falling roofs and other masonry, especially in countries where heavy clay bricks and tiles form the main building materials: fire resulting from ruptured gas pipes; lack of water to put out fires because of broken mains; spread of diseases like cholera and typhoid through contaminated water supplies. Coastal areas can be devastated by tsunamis, generated by earthquakes.	Concrete preparation
Ask pupils to look around the classroom, or if possible, walk around the school building, looking out for hazards in the event of an earthquake.	Hazards might include proximity to sheet glass windows, heavy masonry copings, falling ceilings, falling furniture e.g. bookcases etc.	Pupils can use their observations of their surroundings to construct a pattern of likely events in an earthquake. They should be able to apply what they have learned to new situations (bridging).
Ask where the safest place might be within the classroom.	Take cover under a sturdy desk, table or other furniture. Hold on and be prepared to move with it, remaining in position until the ground stops shaking and it is safe to move. Avoid windows, fireplaces, wood stoves, heavy furniture or appliances. In a crowded area, take cover and stay put.	
Ask where the safest place might be outside.	Get into the open, away from buildings, trees, lamp posts, power lines or signs. In a mountainous area, be alert to falling rock and debris that could be loosened by the earthquake.	
What should you do if an earthquake strikes while you are on the beach?	Move to higher ground quickly, to avoid being caught up in a tsunami.	
Remember the key words for surviving an earthquake if you are indoors.	"Drop: Cover: Hold" ( <i>This came from "In our Time" Radio 4 last week on seismology</i> )	
Then show the brief video clip of two ( <i>otherwise sane!!</i> ) adults demonstrating the earthquake drill at a conference.	The video shows the effect of the increasing intensity of an earthquake, until papers fly off the table and the participants collapse in laughter (although, of course nobody is pretending that a real earthquake is amusing).	