



THE GREAT SHAKEOUT ROCKET RULES CHALLENGE

ACTIVITY 3

SHAKE, RATTLE & ROLL*

Goal

To help students understand how long earthquakes last and give them a point of reference to the passage of time.

Duration: 5 - 10 minutes

Materials

- Stopwatch, timer or clock that counts seconds
- Open activity space

Preparation

Pre-set timer to one minute.

Teaching Cue

Earthquakes can last for just a few seconds all the way up to a full minute. When the ground is rumbling and things around you are falling, even a couple seconds can feel like a really long time. Let's see if we can tell how long a minute of shaking, rattling and rolling can feel.

Directions

- Invite students to stand in the playing space
- Announce "Quake!" and instruct students to "shake"
- Students should shake with care, so they don't hurt themselves or anyone around them
- Alert students when 15, 30, 45 seconds have elapsed
- Instruct the students to stop at 60 seconds
- Ask the Reflection Questions.

Reflection Questions

- Did the time you shook seem more or less than a minute?
- What might happen to objects in this classroom if the ground shook strongly for a minute?
- What might we see, hear or feel if there's an earthquake?

* Adapted from FEMA 427, Earthquake Safety Activities for Children and Teachers, 2005 (<https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1508-20490-6311/fema-527.pdf>)