

Prepare with Pedro! Earthquake Hazard Hunt



American
Red Cross



Prepare with Pedro PRACTICE ACTIVITY: “Earthquake Hazard Hunt”

This practice activity is in tandem with the Prepare with Pedro: Earthquake presentation, which is available in select areas from the American Red Cross. Practice activities solidify concepts taught during a presentation through muscle memory, multi-sensory tools, or music.

When discussing earthquake safety, be sure to discuss concepts such as Drop, Cover, and Hold On and emphasize staying under cover until an adult says it is safe.

For this activity, present the Earthquake Hazard Hunt poster to students and ask them to point out the hazards within Pedro’s home.

Students should be able to point out hazards and describe how to make them safer. You should also ask students to point out where the safest places are for Pedro to go when there is an earthquake.

For further explanation on each potential hazard in a home, or to discuss general earthquake safety, refer to redcross.org/earthquake.

The order which student’s point out hazards should determine the order you discuss them.

Hazards

- Bookshelf: A bookshelf is usually really big and heavy! That’s why it’s very important to make sure heavy or breakable items are stored on a low shelf, and that a grown-up uses bolts to make sure it’s stuck to the wall and won’t fall when the ground is shaking during an earthquake!
- Dresser: Our dressers sometimes have a lot of important stuff in them and on top of them! We don’t want it all to fall out, so by having an adult make sure it’s secured to the wall, we make sure nothing on top or inside will fall and hurt us! We don’t want the dresser to fall on us either.
- Picture/Mirror: Mirrors and sometimes even picture frames have glass in them. We don’t want them to fall and break, because that means there might be glass on the ground that could hurt us! It’s super easy for a grown-up to make sure they are extra secure, so they won’t fall!
- Television: TVs can be really heavy! Just a little extra securing to the wall or the TV stand will help make sure it doesn’t fall and break or hurt us!
- Ceiling fan: Sometimes our ceiling fans are loose or get loose after an earthquake! Be sure to have an adult make sure they are nice and tight and secured to the ceiling beforehand and double check them after an earthquake!

Kitchen cabinets: All of the plates and glasses in the kitchen cabinets can break and hurt someone if they were to fall down! An adult can secure the doors so that they won’t open in an earthquake.

- Items on surfaces: Some objects that rest on top of things can be a hazard! The [vases on this shelf/jars on the counter/lamp] could fall and break, or fall on us and hurt us! If they can be secured somehow, have an adult do so. Otherwise, try to move these things to another space where they wouldn’t fall down during an earthquake.

You can also highlight safe spaces to go to find cover in the house.

Safe Places

- Under the table: The table in the kitchen is a great place to go under! It is very sturdy and can help protect you from anything that might fall! Be sure to hold on to the table leg and cover your head and neck!
- Under beds: If you are in bed when an earthquake happens, no need to go under it! While in bed and under the covers, cover your head and neck with a pillow and hold on to your head and neck until the earthquake is over!
- Under the desk: The desk is a great place to go under, since it is very sturdy. Be sure to hold on to the desk leg and cover your head and neck!