



Dealing with Earthquake Fear

Objective:

- Students will recognize and articulate their fears about earthquakes.

- Students will learn earthquake facts and myths, and see what things can happen during an earthquake.

- Students will formulate earthquake plans and decide how to deal with their fears.

Procedure:

1. Begin a discussion about earthquakes.
2. Have students write down some of their fears about earthquakes.
3. Compile a list of the most common fears and hand out a copy of the list to the class.
4. Have the students do on-line research about each fear. They should try and find out:
 1. If the fearful thing or event can actually happen during a quake
 2. Ways to help calm that fear and increase safety
5. Once the students have handed in their research open up another discussion about earthquakes and see if they are less fearful. What fears do they still have? Are these fears irrational or justified?
6. Discuss earthquake safety and make an earthquake plan.

Resources:

USGS Earthquakes for Kids & Grown-ups!

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/4kids/>

SCEC Electronic Encyclopedia of Earthquakes

<http://www.earthquake.info/>

Earthquake Myths

<http://www.scec.org/education/public/allmyths.html#codes>

FEMA: Earthquakes for Kids

<http://www.fema.gov/kids/quake.htm>

Earthquake Preparedness

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/hazards/prepare.html>