

FOCUS: HOME HAZARD HUNT

MARCH

This action sheet is produced as part of the Southern California Earthquake Survival Program (ESP). ESP is an effort to increase the level of individual and family preparedness in this region. It is coordinated by eight southern California counties and the Southern California Earthquake Preparedness Project.

Wherever you are. Whatever you are doing.
At Home, At work or At school

Join Us

April 2, 1991 at 10:10 a.m.

Earthquake-Duck, Cover and Hold Drill

For more information call the Southern California Earthquake Preparedness Project:

(818) 795-9055 or (619) 238-3321



California Earthquake Preparedness

WHY

Those upon whom you normally depend to serve and protect you will not be able to come to your aid in a major earthquake for a variety of reasons. In fact, they themselves may become victims. You will not be able to pick up a phone and call police, fire, hospitals or utilities. It is up to you to make sure you and members of your family aren't injured unnecessarily. The best way to do this is by eliminating potential hazards in your home. What are they? Foresight and common sense are all that are needed as you go through every room in your house and imagine what might happen in an earthquake. Then take the steps needed to minimize or eliminate the hazard. Once you have checked at home, do a hazard hunt at work and in the classroom. The picture on the reverse illustrates some common hazards. Can you find them?

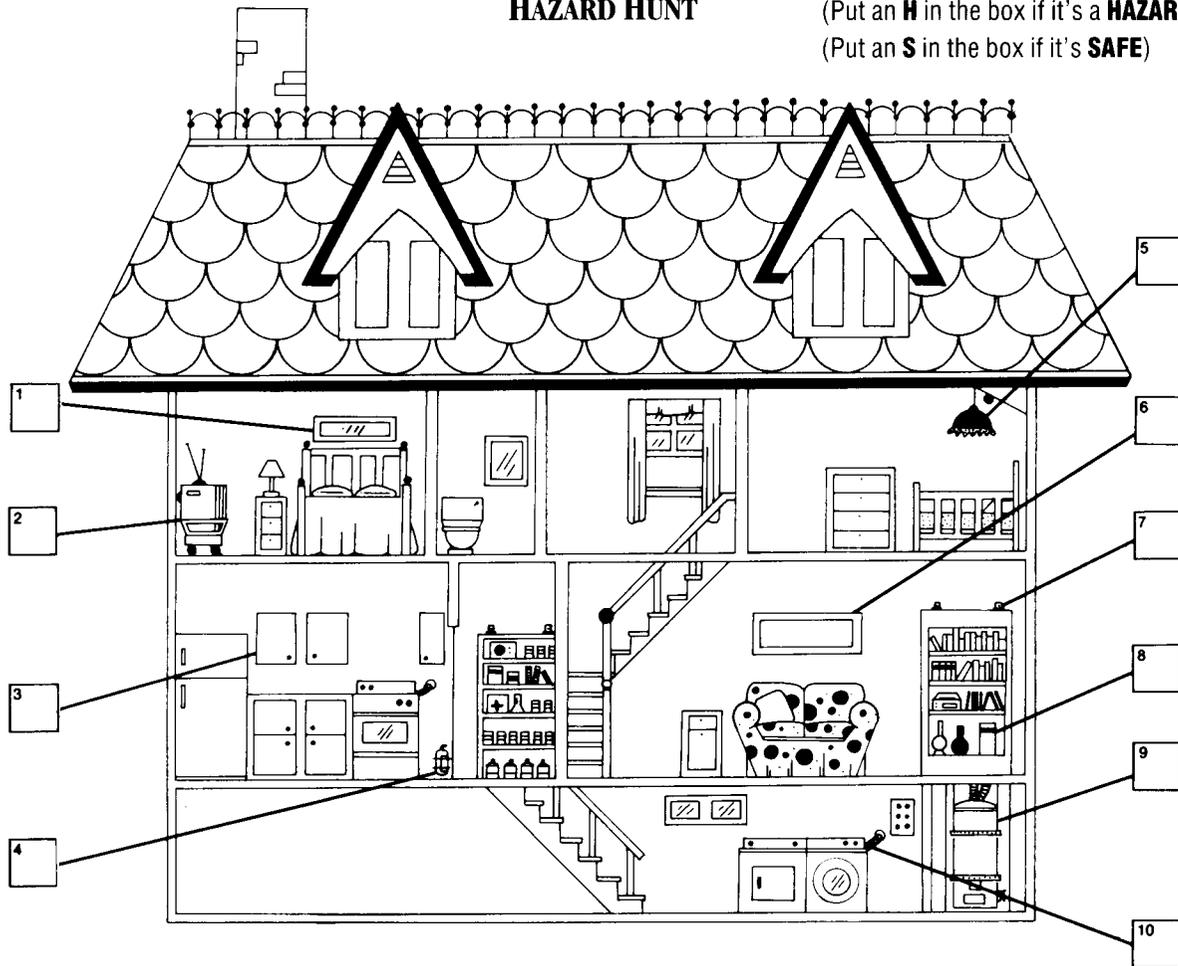
Source: QuakeSafe, Inc.

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HAZARD HUNT

Can you find the hazards in this house?
 (Put an **H** in the box if it's a **HAZARD**)
 (Put an **S** in the box if it's **SAFE**)



#1 Explanation:

Beds should not be directly under glass windows. They should not be next to tall, heavy furniture, bookcases or filing cabinets, either.

#2 Explanation:

Large objects (such as TV sets, refrigerators, or computers) on wheeled bases should have the wheels in the locked position. Otherwise, you might have Johnny Carson in bed with you during the Big One!

#3 Explanation:

Unlatched cabinet doors will fly open in a good jolt.

#4 Explanation:

An A-B-C type fire extinguisher should be accessible wherever a potential fire hazard exists.

#5 Explanation:

Hanging lamps and plants can swing off their hooks unless properly fastened.

#6 Explanation:

Never place heavy picture frames or mirrors over couches, beds or other well occupied places.

#7 Explanation:

Tall, heavy furniture will topple over in a good shaking. Bookcases, china cabinets, wall units, and the like should be securely bolted to the wall.

#8 Explanation:

Breakables and/or heavy objects should be displayed on a low shelf.

#9 Explanation:

Hot water heaters can easily topple over and rupture the gas line. This is a common cause of home fires, even in moderate quakes. Be certain to have your water heater properly strapped to the wall, even if it's located in a closet or in the garage.

#10 Explanation:

Appliances which could "dance" across the room and rupture gas lines should have flexible connectors.

Source: *Living With Our Faults*, QuakeSafe, Inc.

Answers: 1-H; 2-S; 3-S; 4-S; 5-H; 6-H; 7-S; 8-S; 9-S; 10-S

EXPERIENCE SAYS...

Closed window coverings can minimize damage and injury from flying glass.

Secured objects are less likely to cause injury.



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