



Watch Video

Natural Disasters Activity for Kids

Seismograph DIY



Duration: **30-60 min**



Difficulty: **Medium**



Cost: **\$0 to \$5**

Construct your own seismograph and simulate an earthquake!

Material List

- 1** Box
- 1** Pair of scissors
- 5** Rubber bands
- 1** Marker
- 1** Paper strip
- 1** Ruler

Instructions

- 1** Tape one side of the box closed.
- 2** Cut a rectangular slit on both sides of the box along the bottom.
- 4** Along the top, poke a hole in the 4 corners of the box.
- 5** Tie 1 rubber band around each of these holes.
- 6** Loop the 4 bands around a marker and use one more rubber band to secure it in place.
- 7** Adjust the height of the marker so it just barely touches the bottom of the box.
- 8** Feed the paper strip through the slot while shaking the box to simulate an earthquake.

How It Works

When an earthquake occurs, a seismograph records earthquake activity. Due to the shaking, a pattern on the sheet of paper is created. These patterns provide information about the details of an earthquake, such as how strong it was and how long it lasted.