

Timescale of Earth's Events Activity for Kids



Shake Table DIY



Duration: 30 min



Difficulty: Medium



Cost: \$0 to \$5

Make a shake table to test different building designs!

Material List

- 2 Textbooks
- 4 Marbles
- 2 Large rubber bands
- 30 Sugar cubes

Instructions

- 1 Use two large rubber bands to secure two textbooks together.
- 2 Place four marbles in-between the two books.
- 3 Make sure the marbles are close to the corners but will not fall out when shaking.
- 4 On top of the books, build a sugar cube house that's three cubes high and three cubes wide.
- 5 Now push and pull on the top book to simulate an earthquake.
- Try building structures of different sizes and shapes to see which one is best.

How It Works

A shake table can help engineers build earthquake-proof buildings. Buildings that are tall will shake more than buildings that are close to the ground. With this in mind, engineers can use what they learned from using a shake table to change designs to keep buildings from falling down and hurting people during an earthquake.