

Earthquake Preparedness Poster Contest

As part of the 2010 Earthquake Awareness Week campaign, the Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI) at the University of Memphis, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency and State Farm Insurance, are sponsoring an Earthquake Preparedness Poster Contest.

This contest will serve as a valuable learning experience to help students learn earthquake preparedness and safety information. Poster contest Winners will be announced during Earthquake Awareness Week, which runs the second week of February 2010.

Who May Enter

* The contest is open to students in 5th through 8th grades in West Tennessee. Participation by all public and private schools is encouraged. Home schooled students are encouraged to participate too.

Prizes

- * Of the entries submitted to CERI, posters will be judged and prizes will be awarded to the 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place poster per grade .
- * Prizes will also be awarded to the teachers and schools of each winning poster.
- * Prizes will include emergency preparedness items, such as hand crank TV/radios, hand crank and solar flashlights, and first aid kits.
- * The teachers for the winner of each grade will be notified by telephone, mail or email.

Poster Guidelines

- * Entries must be related to the theme of earthquake preparedness and will be equally judged on effectiveness of message (25%); spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar (25%); neatness and legibility (25%); and creativity, originality and overall artistic quality (25%).
- * See below for complete guidelines.

Poster Specifications

- * All entries must be on an 8.5" x 14" sheet (legal) of white paper not cardboard.
 - * All artwork must be original work by the student.
 - * Any medium may be used (crayon, paint, markers, colored pencils, etc., or a combination of these).
- The following may NOT be used:** pencil, chalk, charcoal, glitter, colored glue, tape, mosaics, or anything else that can chip, smear, snag, fall off, etc.
- * Stenciled, traced, computer-generated or commercially manufactured stick-on lettering or graphics are prohibited.
 - * Posters may be drawn vertically or horizontally.
 - * Words and pictures must be included to convey the effectiveness of the message about earthquake preparedness and safety.
 - * Only one entry is allowed per pupil and no joint entries (posters by more than one person).

Local Winners and Submission to CERI

- * Entries may be submitted in person or by mail to University of Memphis, CERI, Attention: POSTER CONTEST, 3890 Central Ave., Memphis, TN 38152.
- * Entries must be received no later than December 4, 2009.
- * Teachers may print out certificates for their participating and winning students. The forms may be found online www.ceri.memphis.edu

Or www.itmattersareyouprepared.org

Identification

* Each entry must include the student's name, grade, school name, school mailing address, teacher's name, teacher's email address and school phone number. A blank form for this information is included and MUST be attached to the back of each winning poster before submitting it.

* When submitting the winning entries, do not fold the posters. Mail in a flat envelope and mark the outside of the envelope with "DO NOT FOLD OR BEND" or mail in a mailing tube.

Teachers

* The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has several publications for teachers and schools on earthquake preparedness, including standards-based classroom activities, "Tremor Troops" for K-6 and "Seismic Sleuths" for 7-12. These publications are available online at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/earthquake/schools.shtm>. To receive a copy of these programs on CD, please contact Jeremy Bateman at 901-678-4917 or jbateman@memphis.edu.

* Another standards-based program, "Masters of Disaster," is available from the American Red Cross on CD. For more information, check online at <http://www.redcross.org/disaster/masters/> or contact your local American Red Cross office.

Earthquake Preparedness Information Web Sites
American Red Cross

* <http://www.redcross.org/pubs/dspubs/cde.html>

Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC)

* <http://www.cusec.org/>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

* <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/earthquake/schools.shtm>

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

* <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/earthquake/index.shtm>

Memphis Emergency Management Agency

* <http://www.mscema.org/>

Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC)

* <http://www.earthquakecountry.info/dropcoverholdon/>

* http://www.scec.org/education/public/espfocus/June_06.pdf

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency

* <http://www.tnema.org/>

For More Information

* Information about earthquake preparedness is available to your school from your local emergency management agency, the American Red Cross, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and CERl.

* Any questions regarding the 2010 Earthquake Preparedness Poster Contest should be directed to Jeremy Bateman at CERl, 901-678-4917 or jbateman@memphis.edu <<mailto:jbateman@memphis.edu>>. Please note

* Posters become the property of the Center for Earthquake Research and Information. Poster may be put on public display.

* Winners may have photo taken upon prize receipt which may then be published on website, newspaper or other education and outreach related medium.

**EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS WEEK
EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS POSTER
CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

(Glue, tape or staple on back of each poster before mailing to CER I)

Please print all information in blue or black ink. Thank you.

STUDENT'S NAME _____

GRADE LEVEL _____

SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL'S MAILING ADDRESS _____

TEACHER'S NAME _____

SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER _____

TEACHER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Entries should be submitted in a flat envelope marked "DO NOT FOLD OR BEND" or in a mailing tube and submitted to the following:

* All entries should be submitted to The University of Memphis, CER I, Attn: POSTER CONTEST, 3890 Central Ave., Memphis, TN 38152.

Entries must be received by December 4, 2009.

All entries into the Earthquake Awareness Week Poster Contest become the property of the Center for Earthquake Research and Information.

Poster Guidelines:

5th Grade: According to the State of Tennessee curriculum standards, 5th graders should be able to identify that people should be able to adapt to their environment. In the event of an earthquake, having a proper emergency kit is very important. As a way to show how people need to be prepared in their environment, we would like for the 5th graders in West Tennessee to draw earthquake preparedness kits that everyone should have on hand for emergency use. Since you do not know where you will be when an emergency occurs, preparing supplies for home, school, and vehicles is very important. Below is a list of the suggested items that most earthquake kits contain. Please note that the poster should include the words "Earthquake Preparedness Kit for (either Home, Car or School)".

- * Three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- * Three-day supply of water - one gallon of water per person, per day.
- * Portable, battery-powered radio or television and extra batteries.
- * Flashlight and extra batteries.
- * First aid kit and manual.
- * Sanitation and hygiene items (moist towelettes and toilet paper).
- * Matches and waterproof container.
- * Whistle.
- * Extra clothing.
- * Kitchen accessories and cooking utensils, including a manual can opener.
- * Photocopies of credit and identification cards.
- * Cash and coins.
- * Special needs items, such as prescription medications, eye glasses, contact lens solutions, and hearing aid batteries.
- * Items for infants, such as formula, diapers, bottles, and pacifiers.
- * Other items to meet your unique family needs.

6th Grade: According to the State of Tennessee curriculum standards, 6th graders should be able to understand how people are influenced by their environment. People who are close to the New Madrid seismic zone may be seriously influenced by their environment and need to understand what to do during an earthquake and more importantly how they can be safe. Based on this idea, we would like your students help with telling people to "Duck, Cover & Hold." We would like for the 6th graders in West Tennessee to draw, illustrate or visually represent "Duck, Cover & Hold." Information for Duck, Cover & Hold can be found at [http://www.oes.ca.gov/CEPM2003.nsf/htmlmedia/dch_drill.pdf/\\$file/dch_drill.pdf](http://www.oes.ca.gov/CEPM2003.nsf/htmlmedia/dch_drill.pdf/$file/dch_drill.pdf). The drawing should include the words Duck, Cover & Hold.

7th Grade: According to the State of Tennessee curriculum standards, 7th graders should be able to understand how the earth influences our human environment using basic map elements. Based on this idea, we would like 7th graders to draw the New Madrid Seismic Zone's spatial relationship to West Tennessee. Their drawing can be based upon the maps found within the USGS National Seismic Hazard Maps (http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2008/3018/pdf/FS08-3018_508.pdf), or <http://www.ceri.memphis.edu/awareness/nmsz.html>. We would like for the students to make a map of their mental distance to either their school or home to the New Madrid Seismic Zone. In simple terms, have students draw how far they think they are from the NMSZ. Please do not forget to add symbology, scale and legend if applicable. The New Madrid seismic zone is a 150 mile long area of seismicity in the middle of the U.S. that runs from southern Illinois to southeast Missouri, from southeast Missouri to northwest Tennessee and from northwest Tennessee to northeast Arkansas.

8th Grade: According to the State of Tennessee curriculum standards, 8th graders should be able to read a paragraph and interpret its meaning using lifelong learning skills from reading, science, history, English and social studies. Drawing on those standards, we would like for the 8th graders to draw or illustrate the following paragraph from a firsthand account of the 1811-1812 earthquakes.

A firsthand account of Matthias Speed:

I was going down the Mississippi River on February 6, 1811. We tied our boat up to another boat on the west bank of the river north of New Madrid, Missouri. About 3 o'clock in the morning, we were awoken because the boat was violently shaking, and there was so much noise that it is too hard to describe unless you were there to hear it. It sounded as if someone was shooting a bunch of cannons under the ground.

As soon as we woke up, we realized that the sand bar we were tied was sinking! We cut our boats loose and rowed towards the middle of the river. Once we were out far enough, we could see that trees were falling in the river because the riverbanks were collapsing. The waves in the river were big that we thought the boat was going to sink! We shoved our blanket in the holes where our oars go, to prevent the water from filling up our boat. This lasted for some time. People on the shore yelled at us to get off the river and we tried, but we couldn't because the trees kept falling in and prevented us from finding a safe landing spot.

When the sun finally rose, we could see that we had only floated 4 miles downriver. I would have never guessed we only went four miles downriver because with all the churning and rapids it felt like we had travelled really far. What had happened was that that downriver the land had popped up high enough that the river began to back up and flood over the riverbanks. It had formed a big lake along the river. Now the river was starting to flow normally again and all that water that had flooded the banks was beginning to rush back down the river. We saw an island up ahead and steered to the right side of it and about a half mile ahead we saw something scary. There was a waterfall right there on the Mississippi River! We were beginning to speed towards the waterfall, we tried to steer away from it, but we were already being pulled towards it. We were so scared. Fortunately, we survived because we aimed right for it and we were prepared.

As we passed those waterfalls, the riverbanks and trees were still falling in. Now I was scared during all this and when I looked back, it looked as if that waterfall was higher the right side of that island than on the left. Luckily we had picked the correct side of that island to past.

When we got to New Madrid, everyone was talking about what they had seen along the river. One person said that further down the river the waterfalls were even bigger than the one I saw, and that some boats crashed because of them. One man said that the ground shook so hard he was forced to hold onto a tree because he was afraid of falling. He said that the shaking was so hard both he and the tree sank into the ground!

Now I spent several days in New Madrid because of these earthquakes. From what I had seen and heard, there was no way I was going to get back on that river. I got back home walking on land.