



## Structural Strength

### CAREER CONNECTION

If you're interested in building and working with your hands, a career in the construction field may be for you! From construction workers and inspectors to carpenters, electricians, floor installers, glaziers, roofers, and more—there are many jobs that use all kinds of construction equipment to create safe and innovative buildings!

### HOW CAN STRUCTURES SURVIVE EARTHQUAKES?

1. Gather household materials that could be used to build the structural base of a model building. Ideas include marshmallows or clay/play dough; toothpicks, skewers, or spaghetti; paper or cardboard; and tape or glue.
2. Construct an earthquake-resistant building frame that is as tall as possible.
3. Place the frame on a table or chair. Then shake the surface forcefully for 20 seconds and observe what happens to your building.
4. How did your structure fare during the earthquake? If this were a real building, what may have happened? What did you learn? What changes may make this structure more likely to survive the next earthquake?