Your Kids May Know More Than You Do

WHEN IT COMES TO EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMIS, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN!

DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON

All K – 12 Schools in California are required to hold earthquake drills. Children practice dropping down to the floor, sliding under their desks, and holding on so that the desktop protects their heads. Repeated drills develop the muscle memory to instinctively do the right thing when the ground begins to shake. Their training pays off in real earthquakes.

Letter to the Editor, The Times-Standard, January 13, 2010 from Nicole Bowles, Fortuna High School

“I am 15 years old and was in the Bayshore Mall food court when it (the earthquake) hit. I immediately remembered what we had been taught since kindergarten, and dove under the table. The floor shook, panels and glass began to fall from the ceiling, and people were running about. People were screaming and running out of the building and dodging falling ceiling panels. I find it odd that the only people who knew what to do were the two high school sophomores.”

PARTICIPATE IN THE GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT

On the third Thursday in October, Californians practice a Drop, Cover, and Hold On Drill at schools, homes, businesses, and other places in their communities. Register to participate as an individual or organization at www.shakeout.org.

WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE, YOU CAN BECOME AS EARTHQUAKE SMART AS YOUR FIFTH GRADER!