



Earthquake Actions for Parents and Care Providers of Young Children

If you're near an infant or young child:

- Pick them up and hold them against your chest as you "Drop, Cover and Hold On."
- If you can't get under a table or piece of furniture, drop to the ground and protect the child with your body while doing your best to cover your own head and neck.
- If you're nursing, stay seated or in bed, shielding your bodies with blankets or pillows.
- When the shaking stops, count to 60 before getting up. Stay calm and move cautiously, checking for hazards above and around you.

If you're in a separate room from an infant or young child:

- Your instinct will be to run to them don't. Immediately "Drop, Cover and Hold On." By running, you could be seriously injured. If you're injured, you won't be able to help.
- If possible, call out to the child and tell them to "Drop, Cover and Hold On." Talk to them in a reassuring tone or count with them to help alleviate panic and anxiety.
- If your child is in a crib, he or she should be safe. Just ensure the crib isn't located near a window. Never hang heavy pictures or shelves above cribs or beds.



Protect children in advance by following these steps:

- Don't hang heavy pictures or objects in a child's room, especially over where they sleep.
- Don't locate cribs or beds near windows.
- Ensure heavy furniture, televisions and light fixtures are securely fastened to the wall.
- Practice "Drop, Cover, Hold On" with children as soon as they're old enough. Repeat the message often so they'll automatically know what to do on their own.



Learn more about "**Drop, Cover and Hold On**" in a variety of situations: <u>http://ow.ly/Ym0GO</u> For more information on ShakeOutBC and earthquake preparedness **visit**: <u>www.shakeoutbc.ca</u>