



University of Colorado
Boulder

Welcome to Earthquake Engineering



February 25, 2017

What is Structural Engineering?

Building structures...
with respect for forces of nature

What are these forces?

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- Water
- Soil
- Wind
- Seismic



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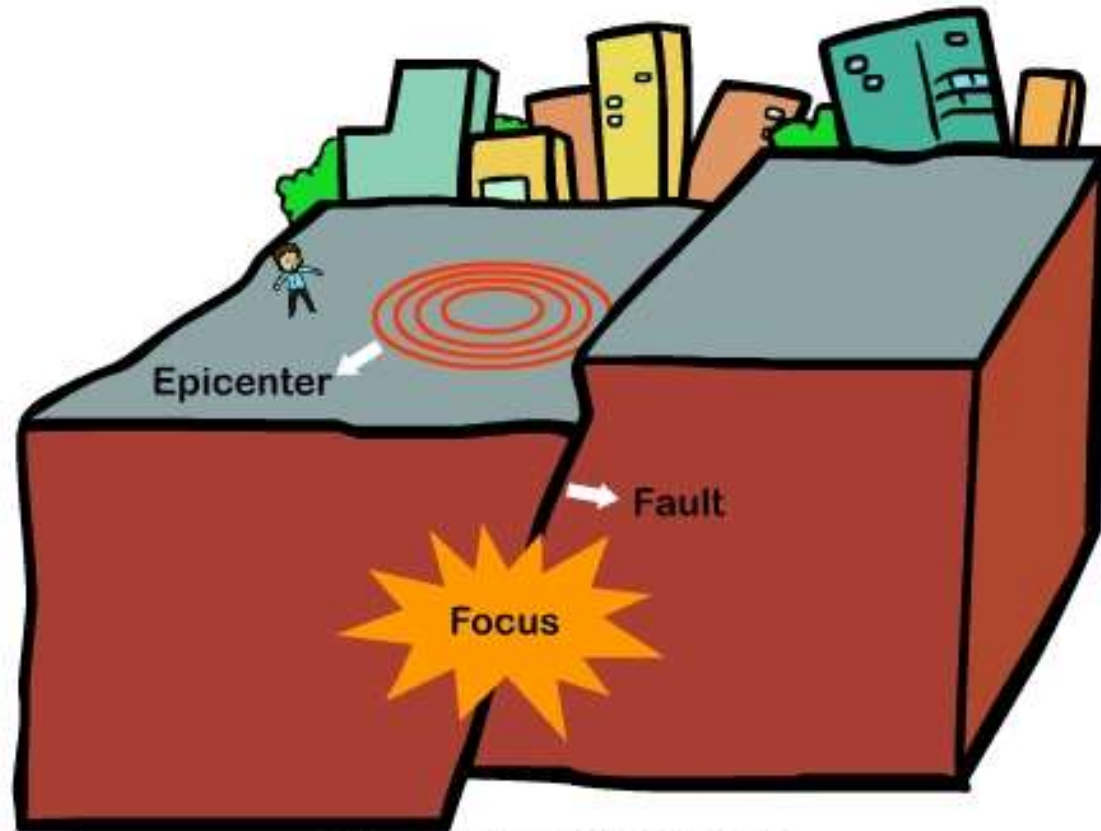
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What is an Earthquake?



www.sciencewithme.com

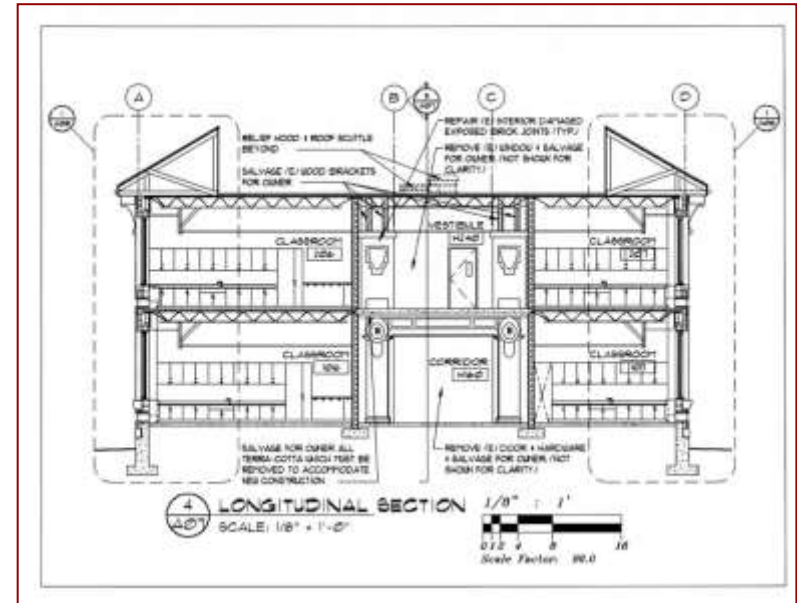
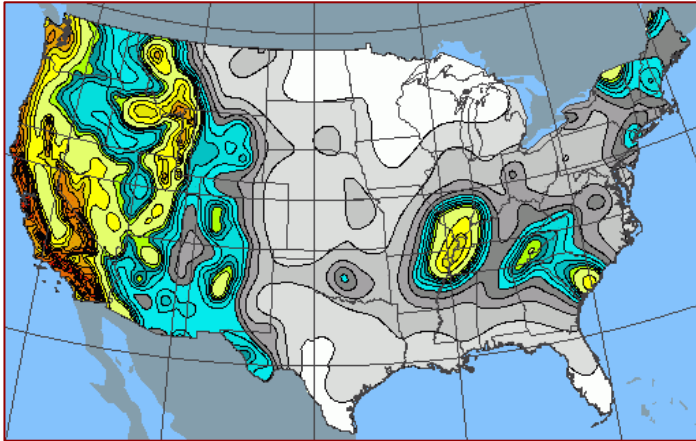
Why Care About Earthquakes?



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What Can We Do?



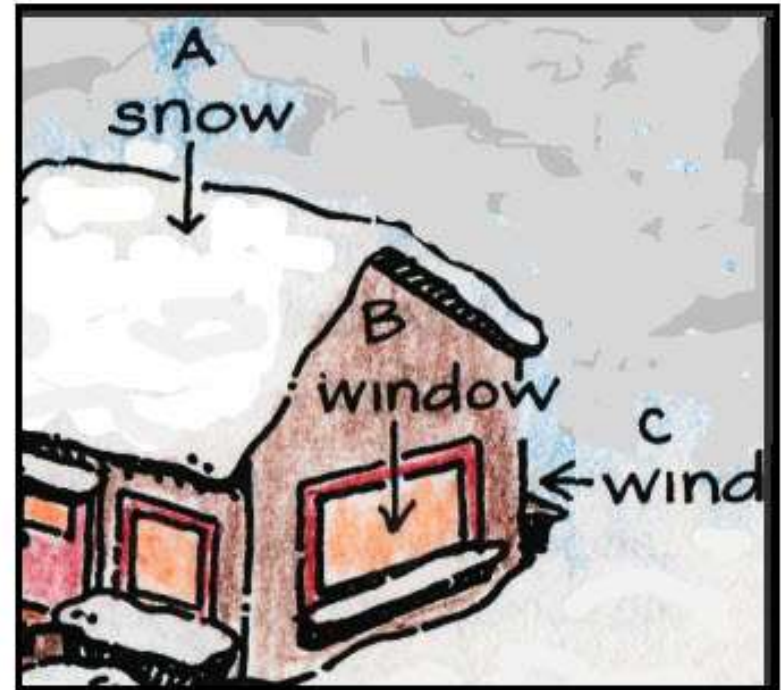
What Do We Need to Know?

STATICS ↓

DYNAMICS ↗

COST \$

SAFETY 



How Will We Design Our Buildings?



Today's Activity



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Your Task:

Design a marshmallow building to perform well during a human-powered earthquake

Today's Activity

1. Client Needs

- Minimum height = 12 inches
- Floor area fits onto site plan

2. Aesthetic Appeal

- Visually interesting

3. Static Performance

- Resists gravity load

4. Dynamic Response

- Resists earthquake load

