

The Earthquake Machine Lite

Activity: Redefining an Earthquake v1.0 - Student Worksheet

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

Directions: Position the block at one end of the sand paper. Using a slow, steady pulling motion, pull the measuring tape through the eyelet until the block moves at least 5 times.

1. Describe what happened to the building when the block moved.
2. Describe what a video camera inside the paper "Office Building" might have recorded when the block moved.
3. Sketch the earthquake machine system.
4. Describe the sequence or steps that occurred to lead up to the building shaking.
5. Where did the energy that made the block move, come from? Where might this same energy come from in the Earth?
6. Was the shaking of the building a cause or a result of the block moving?
7. Building on your answer to question #4, which step, models an earthquake.
8. After using the Earthquake Machine model, develop a new definition of an earthquake based on your experience.
9. How might this model be like/unlike an actual fault and earthquake?