

Earthquake Terror

(Grade 5 Theme 1 Selection 1 Summary)

As <i>Earthquake Terror</i> begins, Jonathan and his sister Abby are camping with their parents on Magpie Island. When their mother breaks her ankle, their father must rush her to the hospital. Jonathan stays behind on the island with Abby, who uses a walker, and their dog, Moose.	10 20 32 45 47
Not long after the parents leave, Moose begins pacing back and forth, barking loudly, and shaking the way he does during a thunderstorm. Jonathan notices how quiet everything is – no birds chirping, no leaves moving.	58 69 78 82
Suddenly, there is a loud noise in the distance. Jonathan feels a jolt and falls forward. He feels the ground moving underneath him. It's an earthquake!	95 106 108
Jonathan feels as if he's riding a surfboard. He and Abby both fall, and she loses her walker. Thinking about the earthquake drills that he practices in school every year, Jonathan tells Abby to put her hands over her head. He tries to crawl over to her but can't keep his balance. Everything is moving, Abby is screaming, Moose is barking, and the earth sounds like a pounding drum. A huge redwood falls, just missing Jonathan by a few feet. It lands on another fallen tree.	121 133 145 160 171 182 194
Finally, Jonathan reaches Abby. He tells her that they need to find shelter. They manage to crawl over and wedge themselves into the space between the redwood and the other tree. Moose joins them there.	206 217 228 229
Then as quickly as it started, everything stops. Jonathan isn't sure how long the earthquake lasted. Everything is quiet again. The children come out from under the tree. They are both okay, except for a few cuts. They know that they are lucky to be alive.	240 250 263 275