



Goodies

Drop, cover, hold on!

NATURAL disasters are large-scale events, like earthquakes and typhoons, that cause damage. What is worse, when an earthquake happens near or in the ocean, there is a high chance of a tsunami occurring. To help kids learn what to do when natural disasters happen, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) has published for them a series of books called *Cope*.





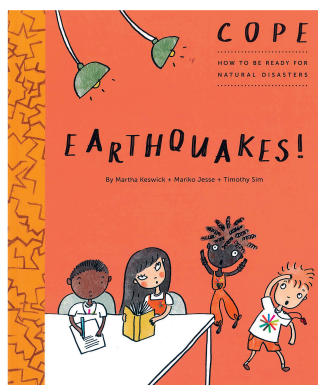
Coping with disaster

THE title of the children's series *Cope*, written by Martha Keswick and illustrated by Mariko Jesse, is made up from the **initials** of the four main characters' names – Candy, Ollie, Ping and Eddy. The Cope children all study at Sichuan (四川), under the guidance of the kung fu expert, Grand Mistress Fu. The two books out now are about earthquakes and tsunamis.

Practise to stay safe

AFTER describing the four children and their backgrounds, the book shows what to do when there is an earthquake: drop, cover and hold on. Meanwhile Fu and her four students go to Colima, Mexico (墨西哥), which gets many earthquakes, like in Sichuan.

In Colima, the Cope children join many events with other youngsters and organisations to get them ready for the next quake. They help pack many **survival** kits, do drills and check out the **readiness** of the school and the town. At the end of the day, the town has an earthquake. All the local children and the Cope kids **immediately** react in the correct way – drop, cover and hold on.



Earthquake basics

EARTHQUAKES are the shaking or rolling of the Earth's **surface**. They can be felt even if you are far away from the centre of the quake. And they usually last less than a minute.



What should you do during an earthquake?

- A. Drop, cover and hold on
- B. Dance like a chicken
- C. Climb trees

Answers on P12