

Can Cats Predict Earthquakes?

Science says no, but many owners disagree.

By Andrea Dorn

Earthquake. The word elicits visions of great cracks in the ground, canyons leading to the center of the earth, buildings crumbling and major bridges swinging vehicles from their grasp. These are film versions of this natural phenomenon that occurs 500,000 times a year according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS). In reality, humans don't even feel 80 percent of all earthquakes. Only 100 earthquakes a year cause any damage. And yet we are fearful. Are our pets fearful as well? Can animals predict earthquakes even before scientists? Scientific studies and anecdotal evidence raise an interesting debate.

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