The Adventures of Terry the Turtle and Gracie the Wonder Dog

Grades K-2

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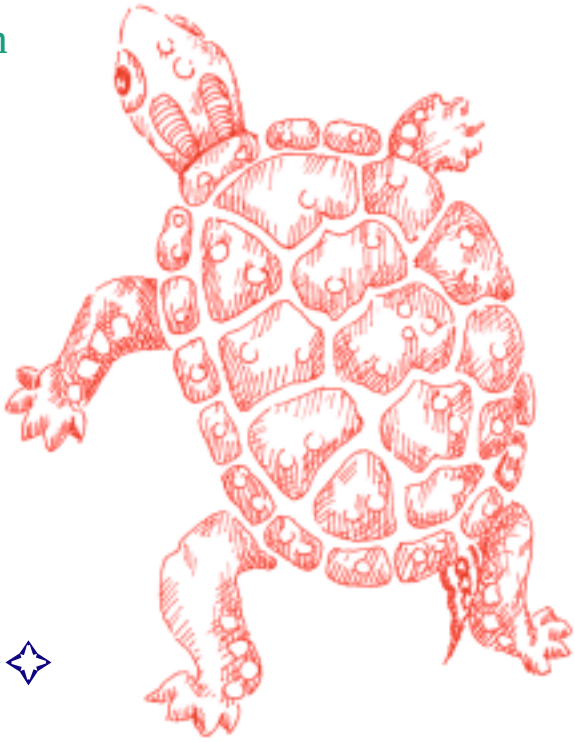
Not so far off from the town of Shakeyville lived Gracie the Wonder Dog and her brother George.

Shakeyville had a Mayor named Terry the Turtle.

Mayor Terry wanted every citizen of Shakeyville to be ready in case an earthquake happened.



Gracie and George had a friend named Abbey who lived next door.

Nala lived across the street from Abbey.

The four of them made up the Shakeyville Seismic Patrol.

Gracie the Wonder Dog, George, Abbey and Nala care about what happens to the people in Shakeyville. They help teach students about Earthquake Preparedness.

One cold, crisp day Gracie and the Seismic Patrol went to the Shakeyville Elementary School.

"Good morning everyone!" said Gracie. "We are here today to teach you all how to be safe when we have an earthquake in Shakeyville."

Gracie told the students not to be scared of an earthquake. There was a lot they could do to make their classroom safe.

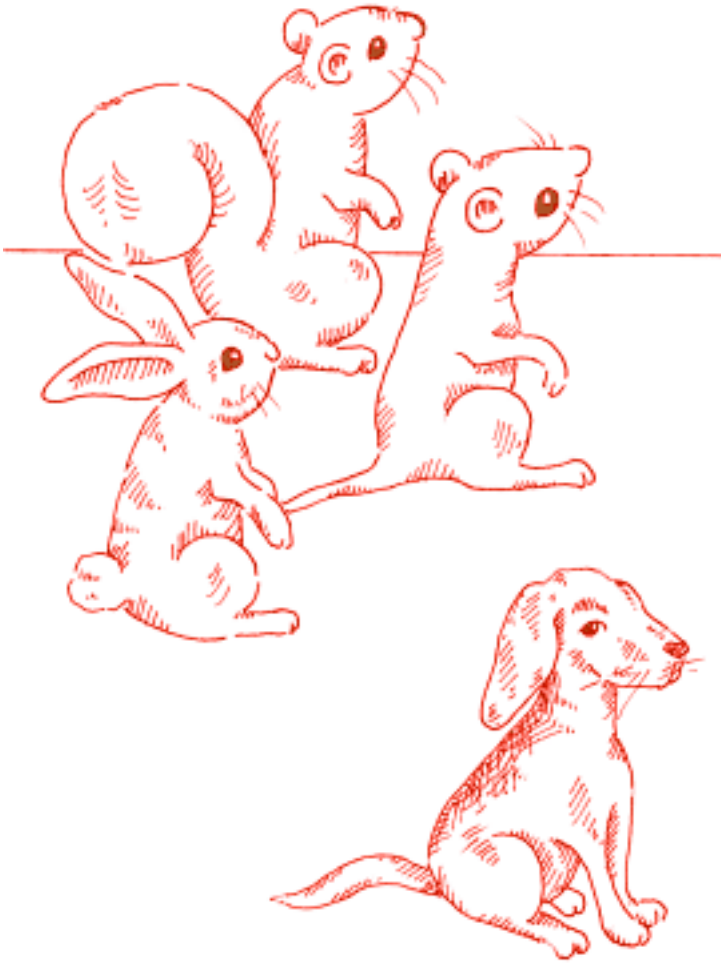
Abbey told the students to turn their desks away from the windows.

Nala talked about tying things down, like computers,TVs and heavy objects that could fall and hurt them.

Gracie asked Mrs. Hillary to remove all the big boxes that were up on the shelves so they wouldn't fall down on the students. Mrs. Hillary began making changes to the classroom right away. All the students helped, except Wellington. He just sat in the chair and watched.

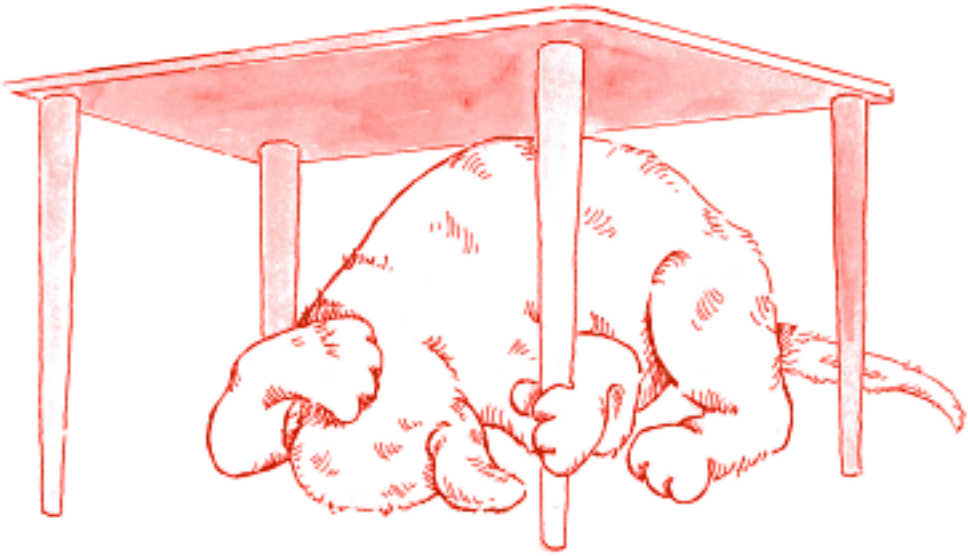
The boys and girls in Mrs. Hillary's class paid very close attention to the Seismic Patrol.

"Drop, Cover and Hold" are the key words in earthquake preparedness," Gracie said. "If the earth started to shake while you are in your classroom, "Drop, Cover and Hold under your desk or table."



Gracie continued,"Students, watch as Nala teaches you how to "Drop, Cover and Hold."

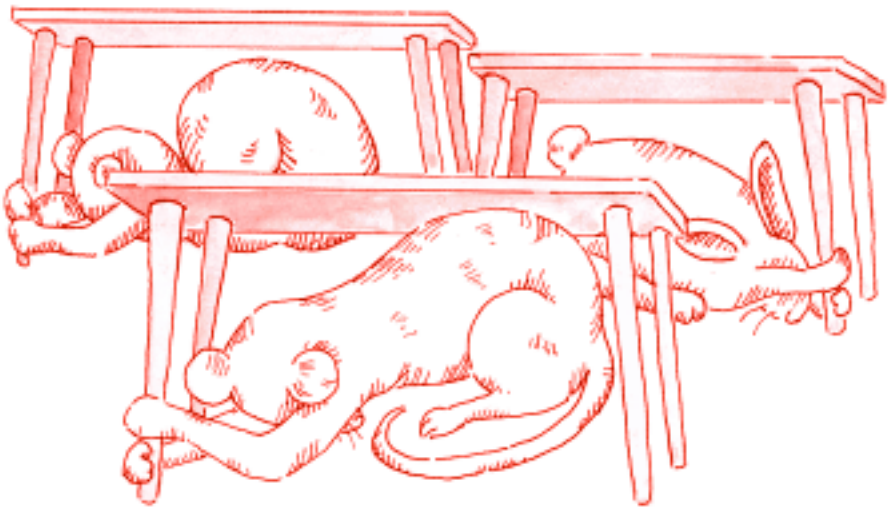
Nala listened for Gracie to start the earthquake drill by saying, "Earthquake! Drop, Cover and Hold!"



As soon as Nala heard the words, she got under the desk, covered her head, and held on to the leg of the desk so the desk wouldn't move away from her.

Gracie asked the students if they would like to practice the earthquake drill and "Drop, Cover and Hold."

They were excited to practice, because now they knew they would be safe when the ground started shaking.



Gracie liked the way Scooter was tucked nice and tight under his desk.

Suddenly, Gracie saw a little boy in the back who didn't want to practice. His name was Wellington.

Gracie went to the back of the room and asked, "Wellington, why didn't you practice the earthquake drill?"

Wellington answered, "I don't want to! We're never going to have an earthquake!"

Gracie said, "Wellington, I hope you are never in an earthquake because you are not prepared. Abbey, Nala and I are very sorry you didn't practice with the other students."

Gracie and the Seismic Patrol ended their lesson with the students.

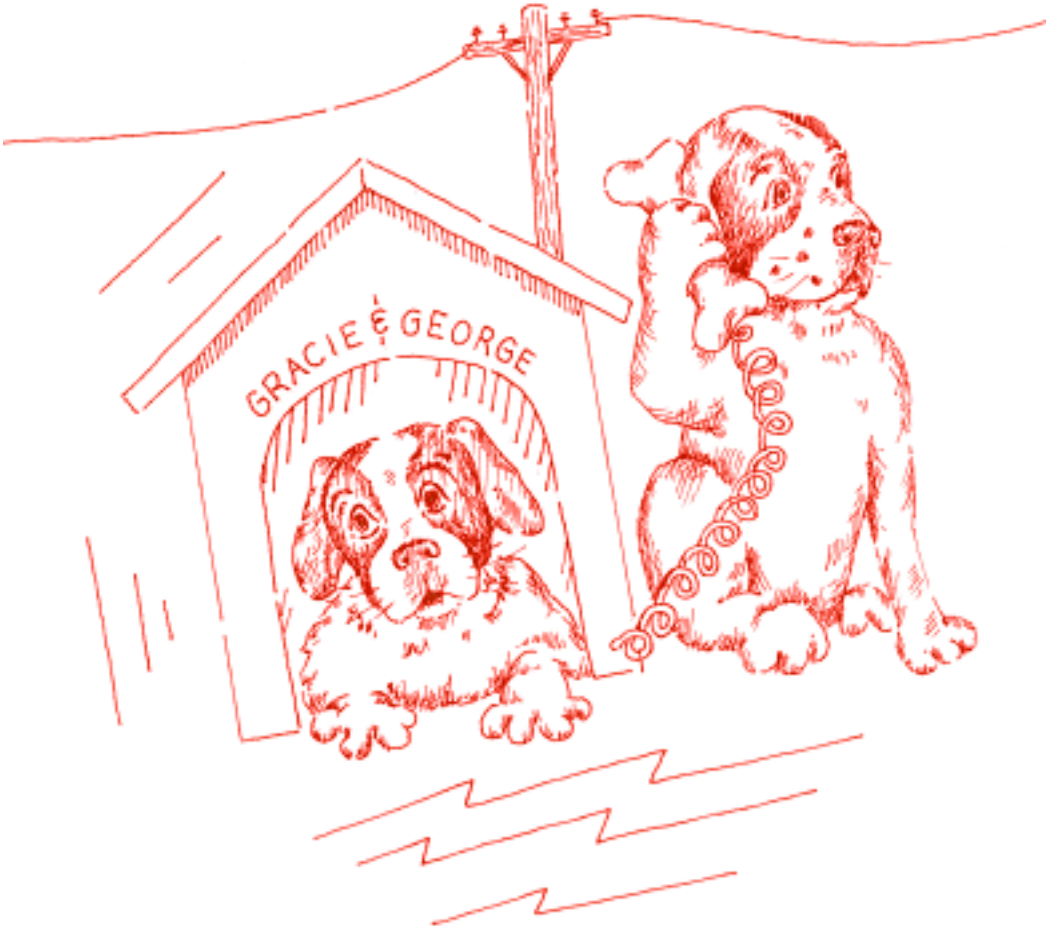
As she was leaving the classroom, Gracie exclaimed, "Remember, if the ground starts to shake, "Drop, Cover and Hold."

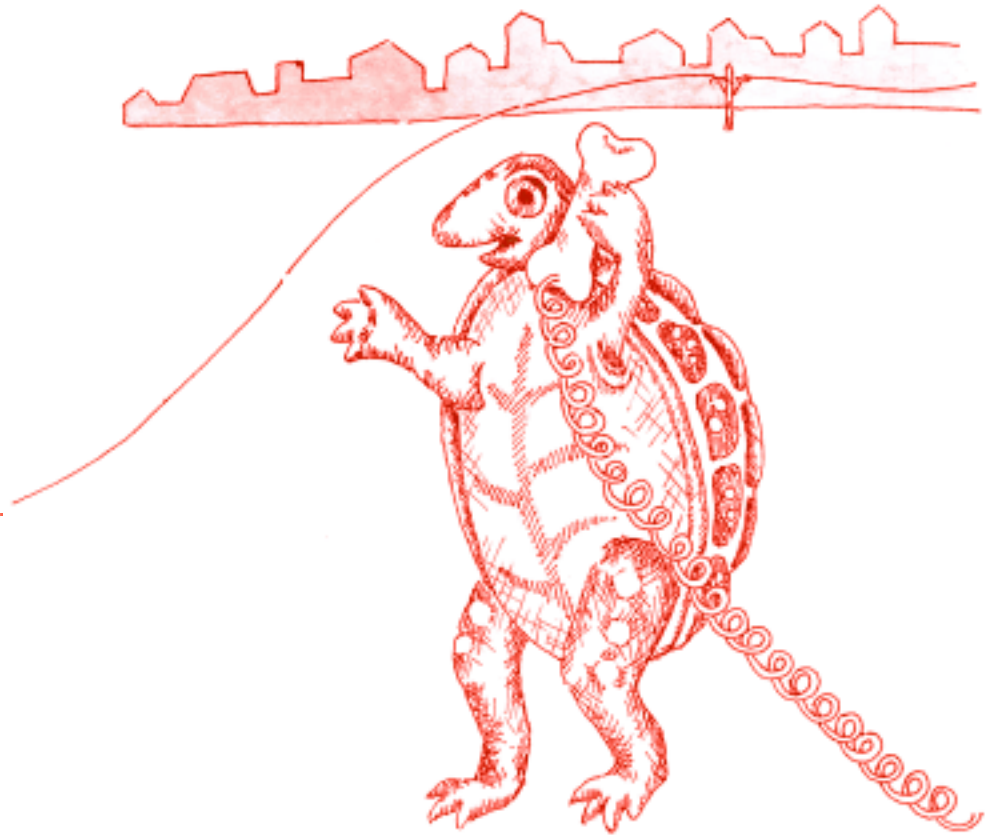
Two months later, the earth started to shake. Gracie and her team were in the doghouse waking up from a nap.

"What's happening?" George asked.

Gracie hopped up off the ground and yelled, "Earthquake!"

She called out, "Drop, Cover and Hold!"





It wasn't a moment later when her phone started to bark. Gracie picked up the phone and Mayor Terry the Turtle was on the line.

"Gracie, we need your help!" exclaimed Mayor Terry. "We've just had an earthquake in Shakeyville. We need you and the Seismic Patrol to go over to the Shakeyville Elementary School and check on the students. Please make sure no one has been hurt."

Gracie and her team put on their safety suits and flew over to the school.

"There's the school!" Nala yelled.

"I see it!" replied Abbey.

"From the sky, the school looks okay," said George.

Once Gracie and the Seismic Patrol were in the school, they went to each room in the school.

“Nala and Abbey, you take the rooms on that side of the hallway,“Gracie ordered.

“George and I will take the rooms on this side!”

As Gracie and George went through the building, they could tell the students of Shakeyville Elementary were well prepared.

Students had dropped under their desks for protection, covered their heads and held on to the legs of their desks. They also had prepared their own disaster kits.

Gracie and George were especially interested to see Mrs. Hillary's class.

GRACIE
Seismic Patrol
GRACIE
Seismic Patrol
DISASTER KIT
Water

Mrs. Hillary greeted Gracie and George.

"Oh Gracie and George, we're so glad you're here! Wellington has a bump on his head from a book that fell off the bookshelf. He didn't listen to you when you were here and now I'm afraid he's hurt. He never brought a disaster kit to school, so he doesn't have any food or water. Can you help him?"

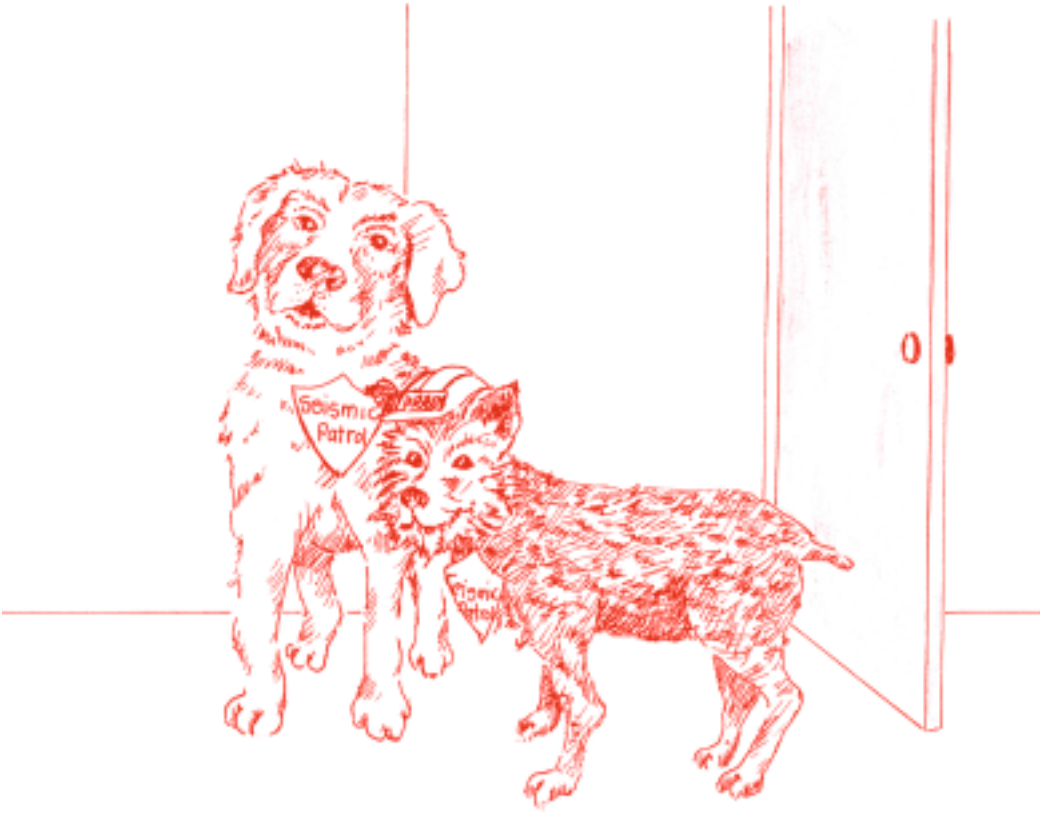
“Yes, we can help him!” Gracie said.

Gracie sat down on the floor by Wellington, opened up the Disaster Kit she carried on her back, took out a band-aid and covered Wellington’s wound.

“Now, you should feel better,” Gracie said while patting his head.

“Oh Wellington, you should have listened.”

Wellington was very sorry. "Gracie," he said, "I'm sorry I didn't listen the first time. I'm sorry that I said those things to you when you were here teaching us how to be safe if an earthquake happened. I wish I had listened. I've learned my lesson. I'll be earthquake safe the next time the ground shakes!"



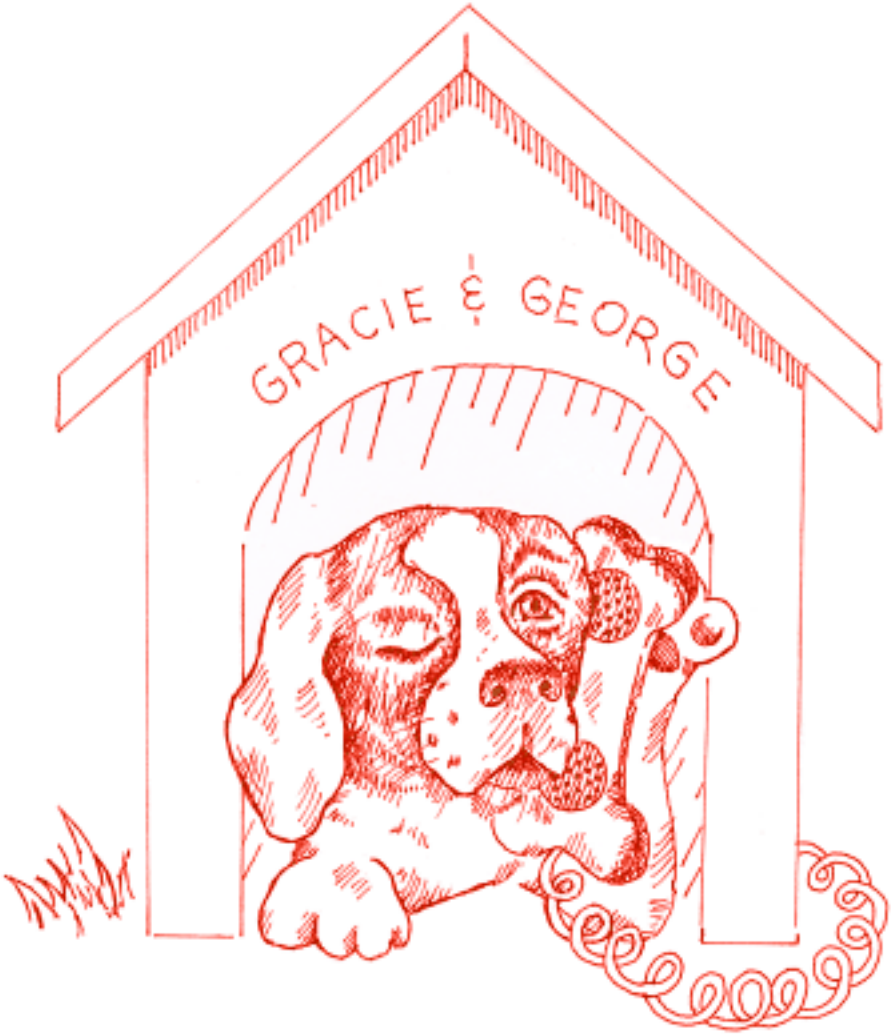
Just then, Nala and Abbey walked into Mrs. Hillary's classroom. "All the students at Shakeyville Elementary School are fine!" Abbey exclaimed.

Gracie and the Seismic Patrol started to walk out the door when Mrs. Hillary's class yelled, "Thank you, Gracie! Thank you, George! Thank you, Nala! Thank you, Abbey!'

As the Seismic Patrol flew up into the sky, the students in Mrs. Hillary's class waved goodbye and cheered!

Smiling from ear to ear, the Seismic Patrol flew back home to the doghouse to take their much-needed naps.

While the Seismic Patrol was sleeping,
Gracie's phone started to bark.
Gracie raised an eyebrow and smiled.



"Well team, looks like the Mayor
needs our help again. Let's get going...."