

# Building Codes Activity Book



FEMA



# Welcome to our Building Codes Activity Book



FEMA has created this activity book to help you learn more about how building codes help protect our communities against natural hazards. By using natural hazard-resistant building codes, communities are better prepared for events such as earthquakes, storms, floods, or fires.

This book includes several pages of activities and learning for you to complete. We hope you enjoy this activity book!

**"Did you know that floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, and tornadoes are called natural hazards?"**

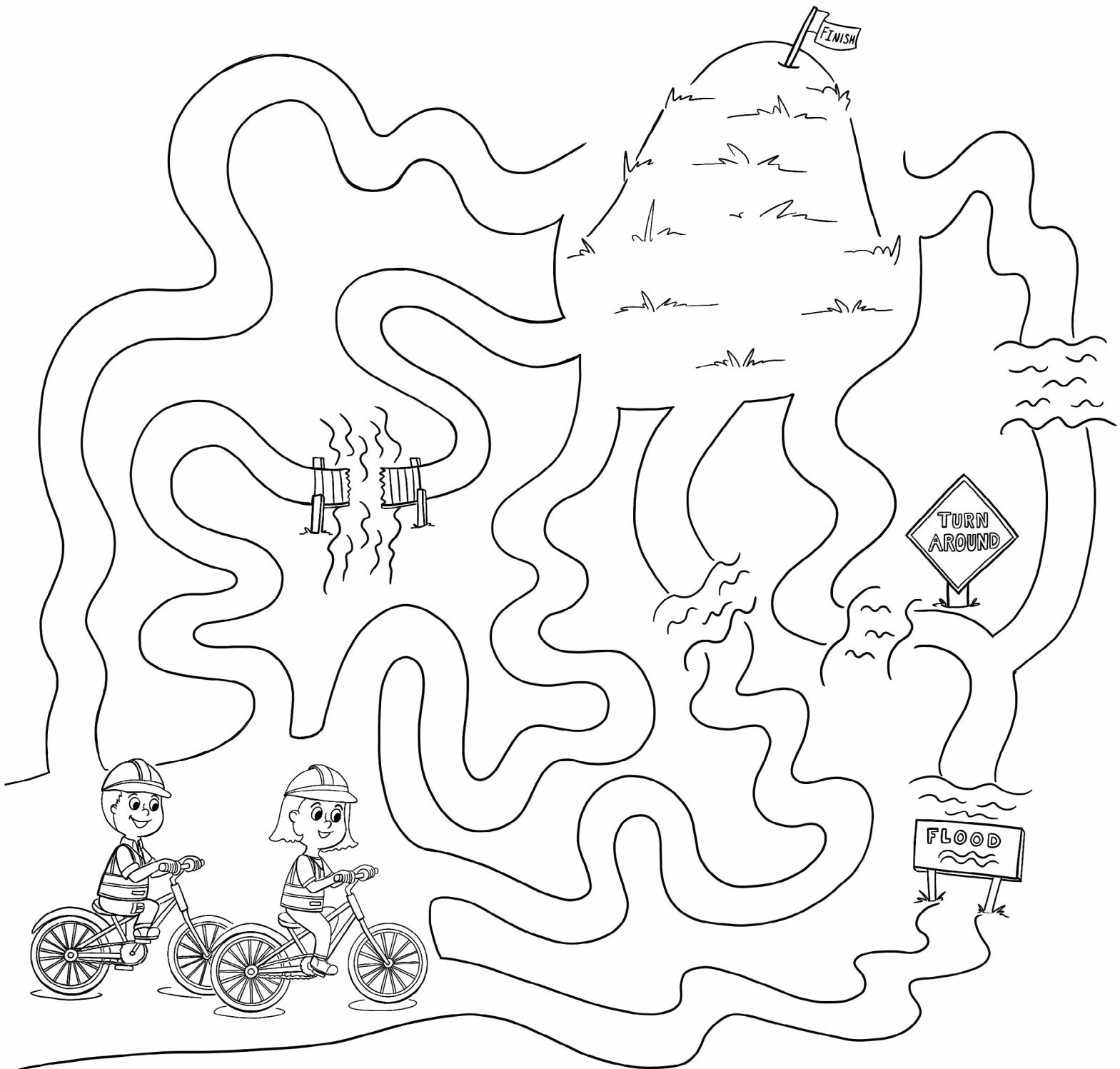
**"These hazards can harm not only people, but homes and buildings too!"**



**"That sounds scary!"**



# Find the Higher Ground!

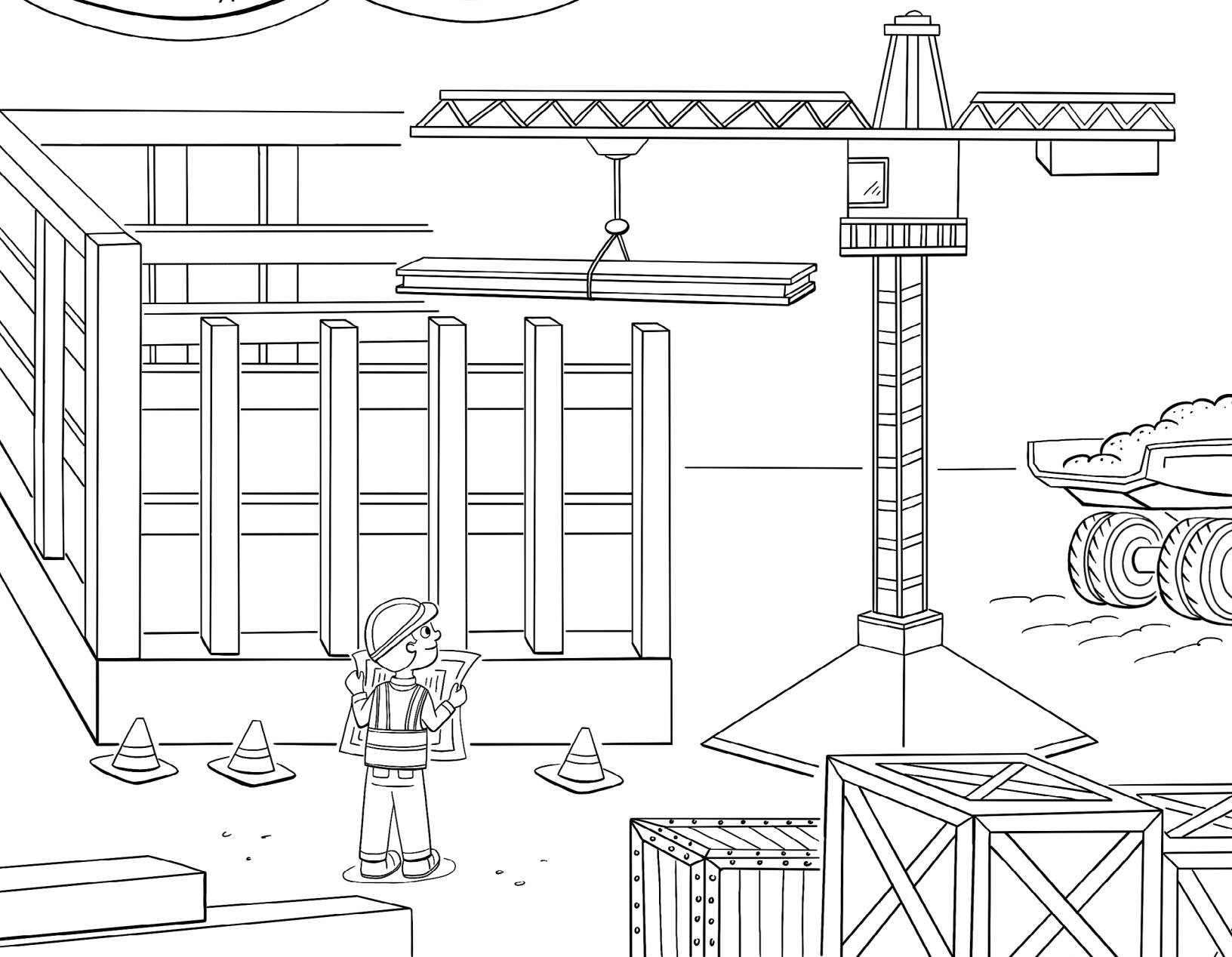


Follow the trail through the maze to avoid the hazards,  
just like you would to find higher ground during a flood.

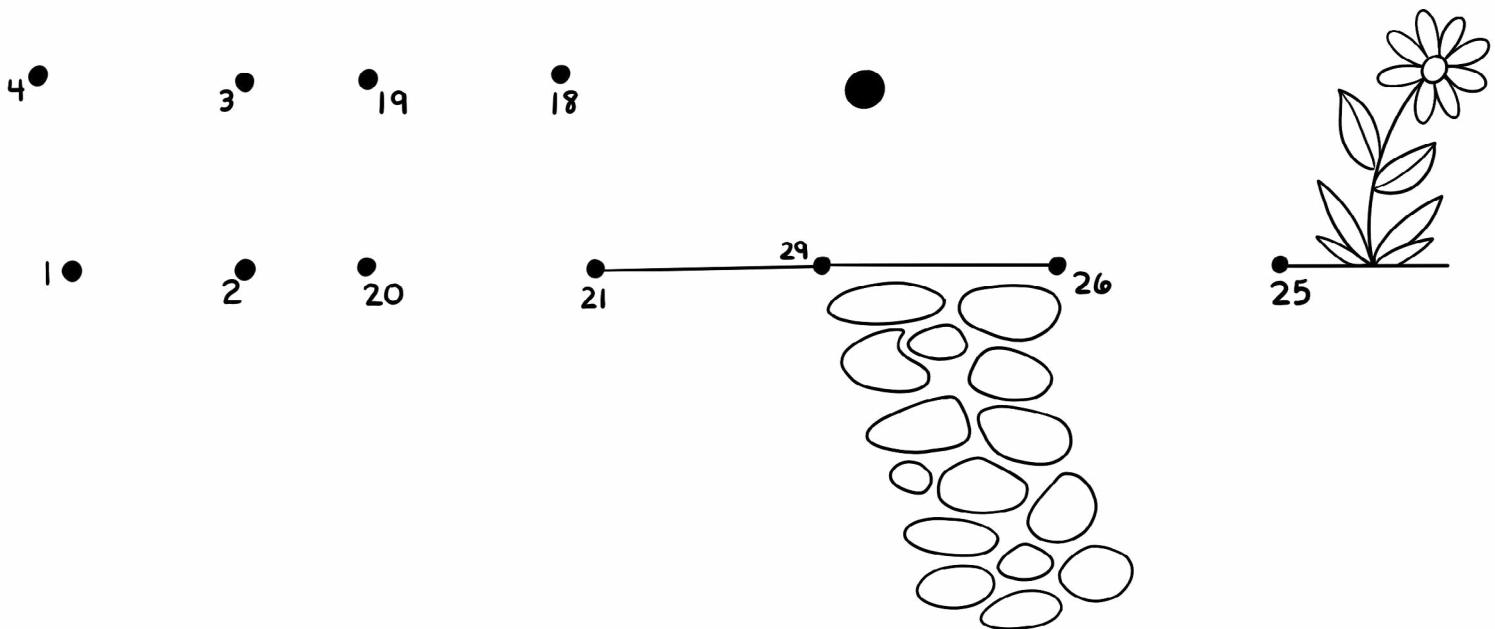
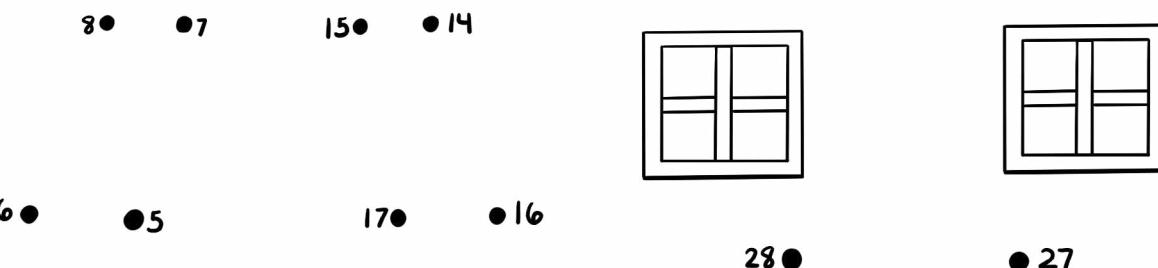
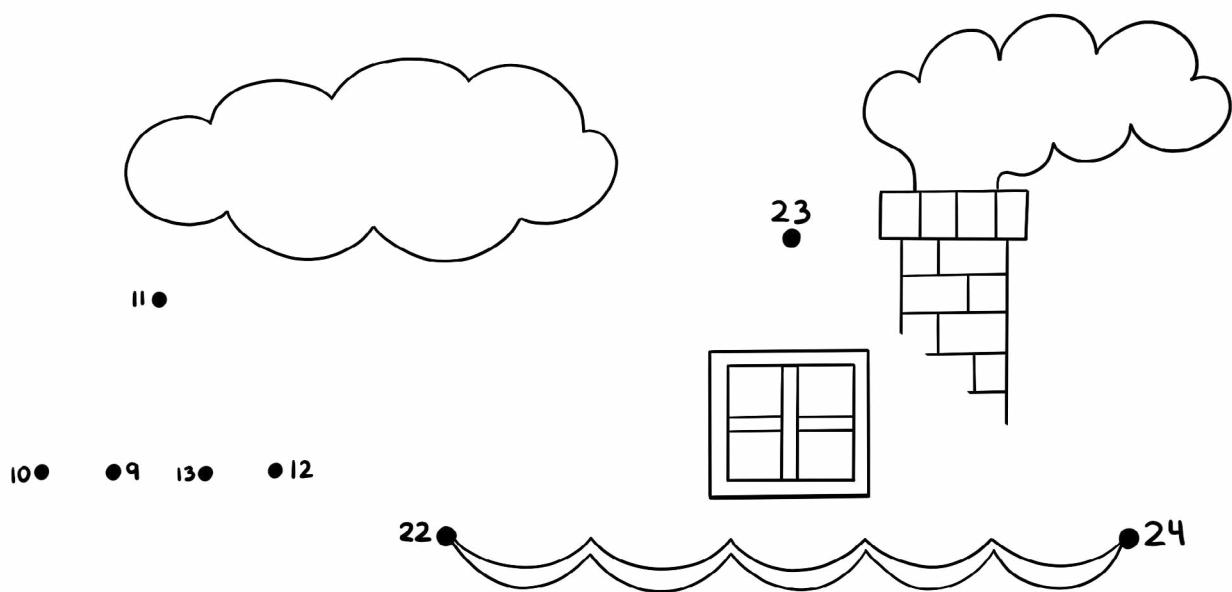
"How can we stay safe?"

"I know! We can use building codes to help build safe homes and buildings to stop floods, earthquakes, and windstorms from creating a disaster in our town."

Building to code is the best thing we can do. For example, in school, getting a C is passing, but getting an A is even better. Even though building codes don't have grades, it is still better to go above and beyond, like getting an A! When we build homes that are strong enough to take on natural hazards, it makes our buildings safer.



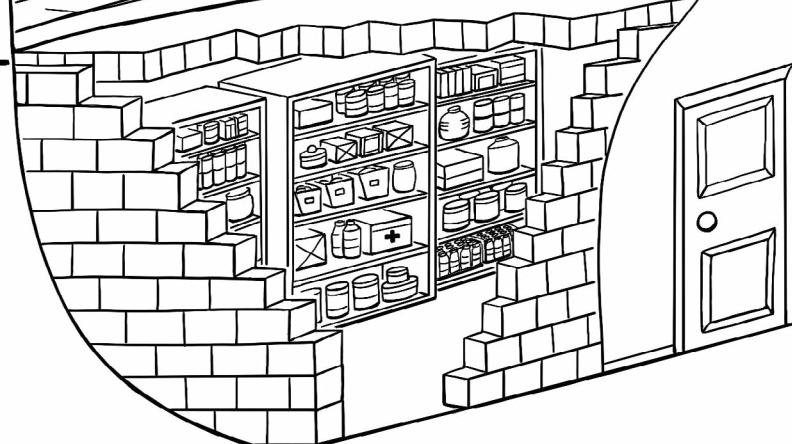
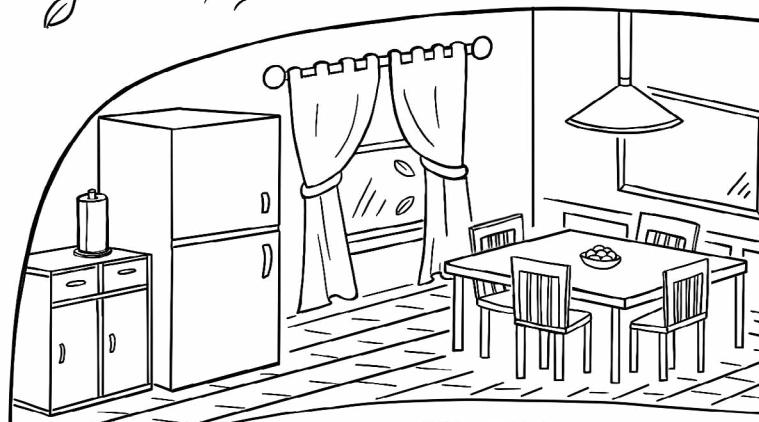
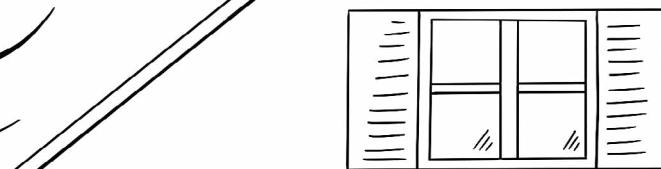
# Connect the Dots



With a pen, pencil or marker, connect all the dots.  
Next, imagine what the connected dots could be! What object or scene appears?  
Describe the image and name it.



"If we build using the building code, we can save lives! Our community will be better protected against natural hazards."



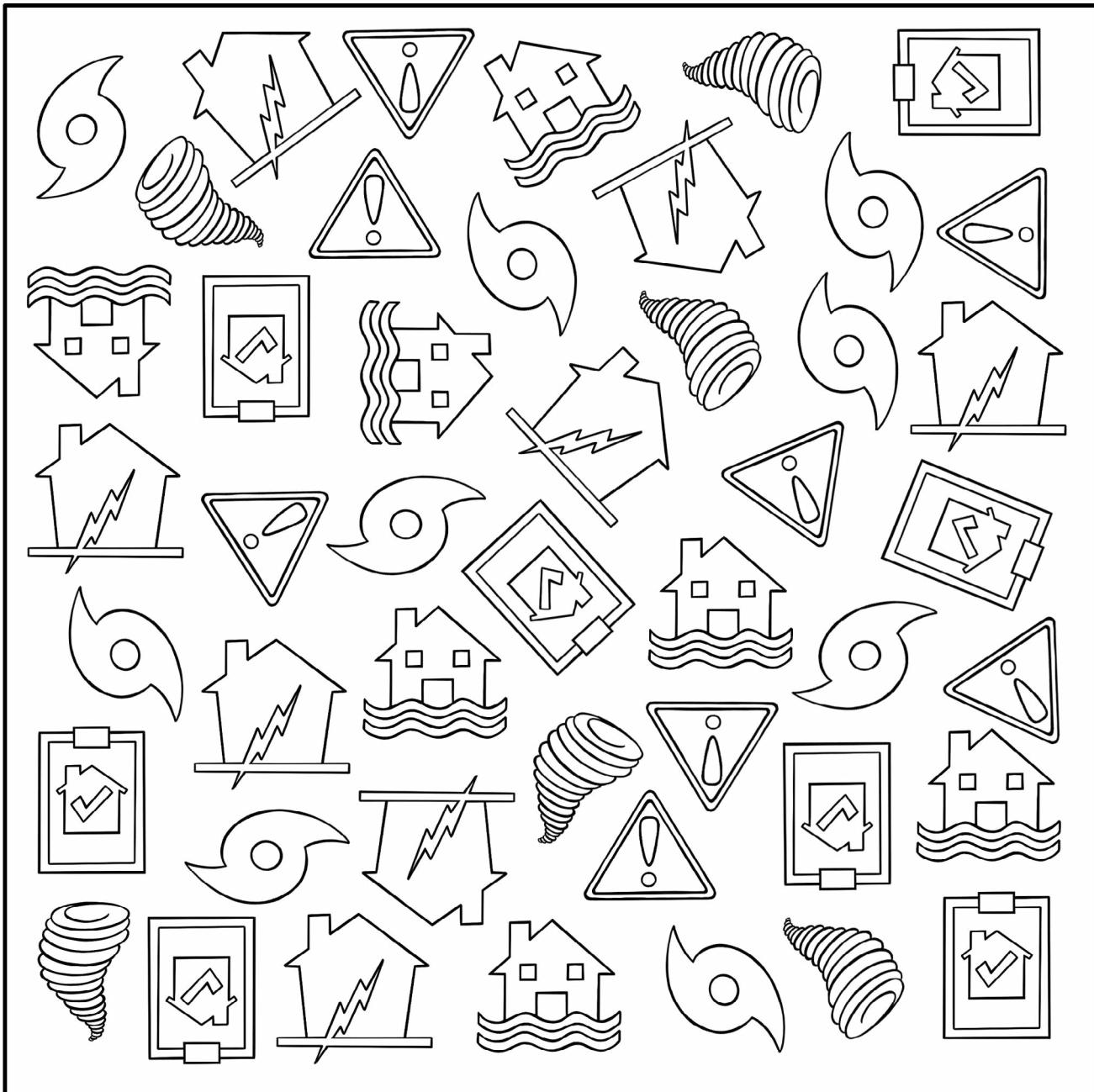
"What about a tornado?"



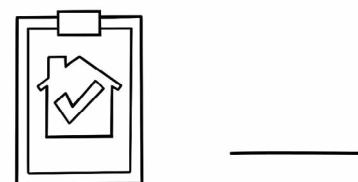
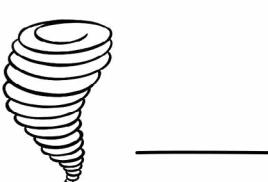
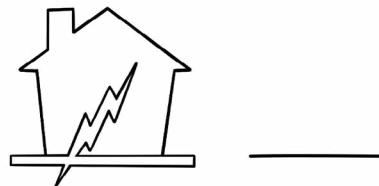
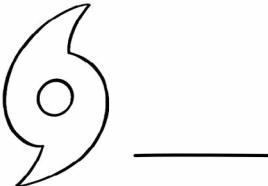
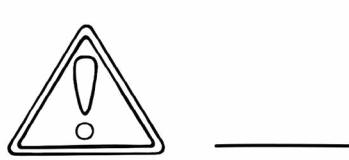
"Storm shelters can be built to provide a safe place during tornadoes and hurricanes."

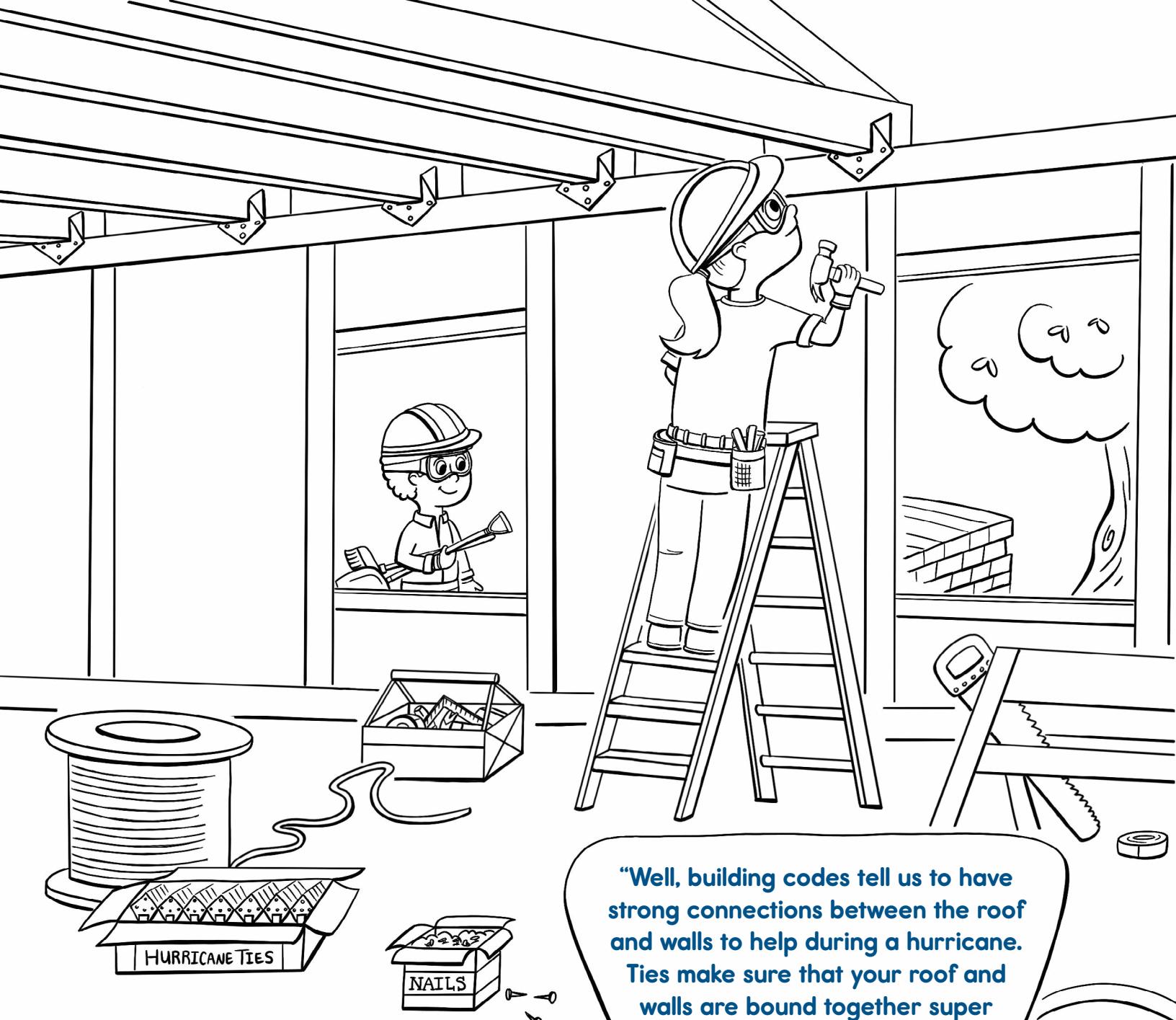


# I Spy Natural Hazards



## How many of each hazard icon can you find?



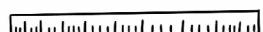


"Well, building codes tell us to have strong connections between the roof and walls to help during a hurricane. Ties make sure that your roof and walls are bound together super tightly."

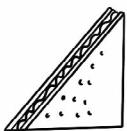
"What kinds of things can we do to build safe structures to protect us against natural hazards?"



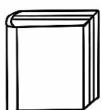
# Find the hidden object



Ruler



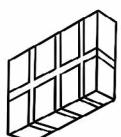
Sandwich



Book



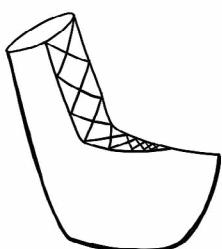
Pizza



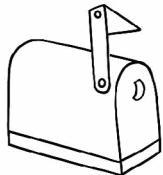
Chocolate



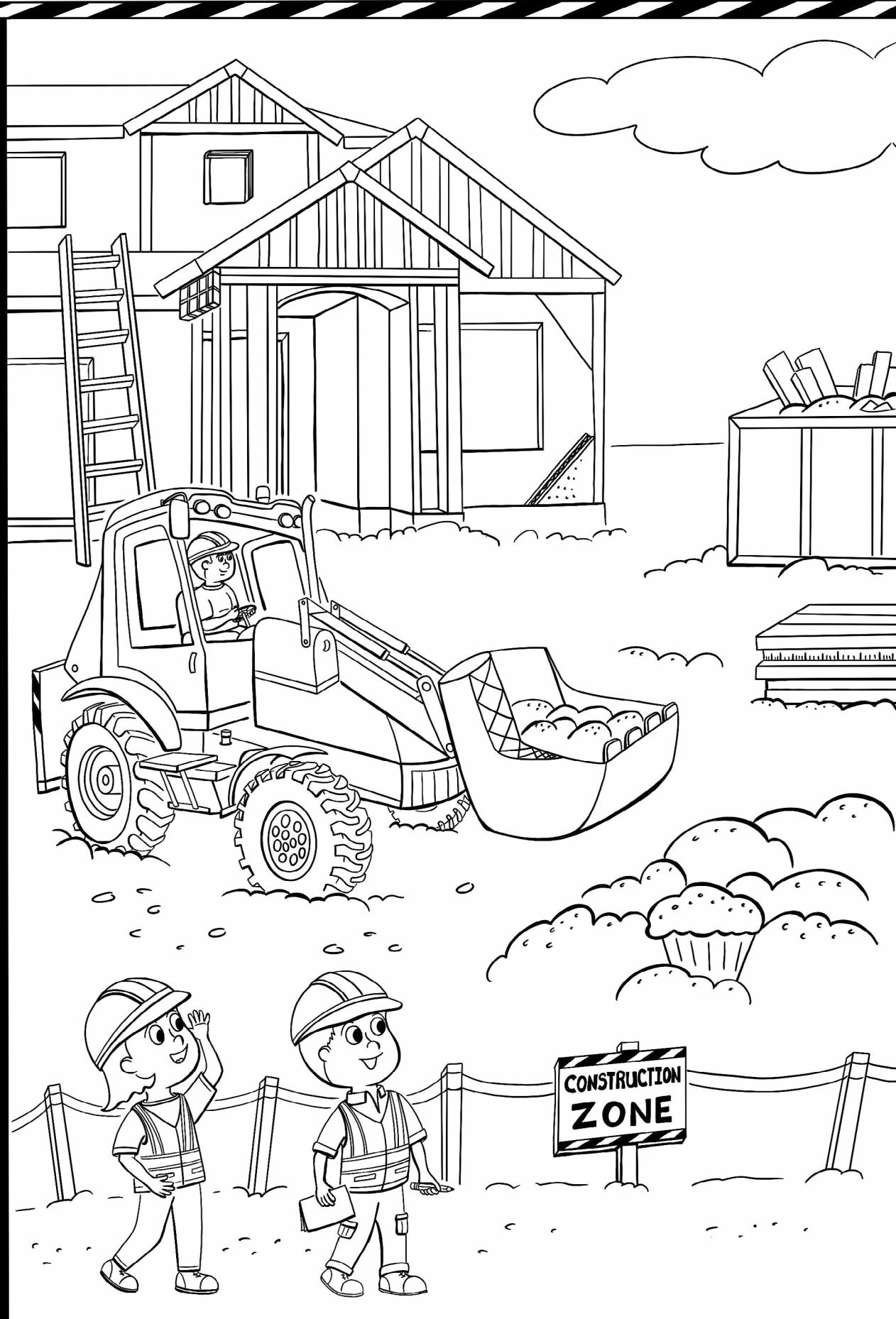
Muffin



Boot



Mailbox



"You can also build high off the ground to help during a flood."



# Word Scramble

Unscramble these words about building codes.

liignudb decos

\_\_\_\_\_

artnual arzadsh

\_\_\_\_\_

olsfdo

\_\_\_\_\_

eaahtesruqk

\_\_\_\_\_

scnruuaeihr

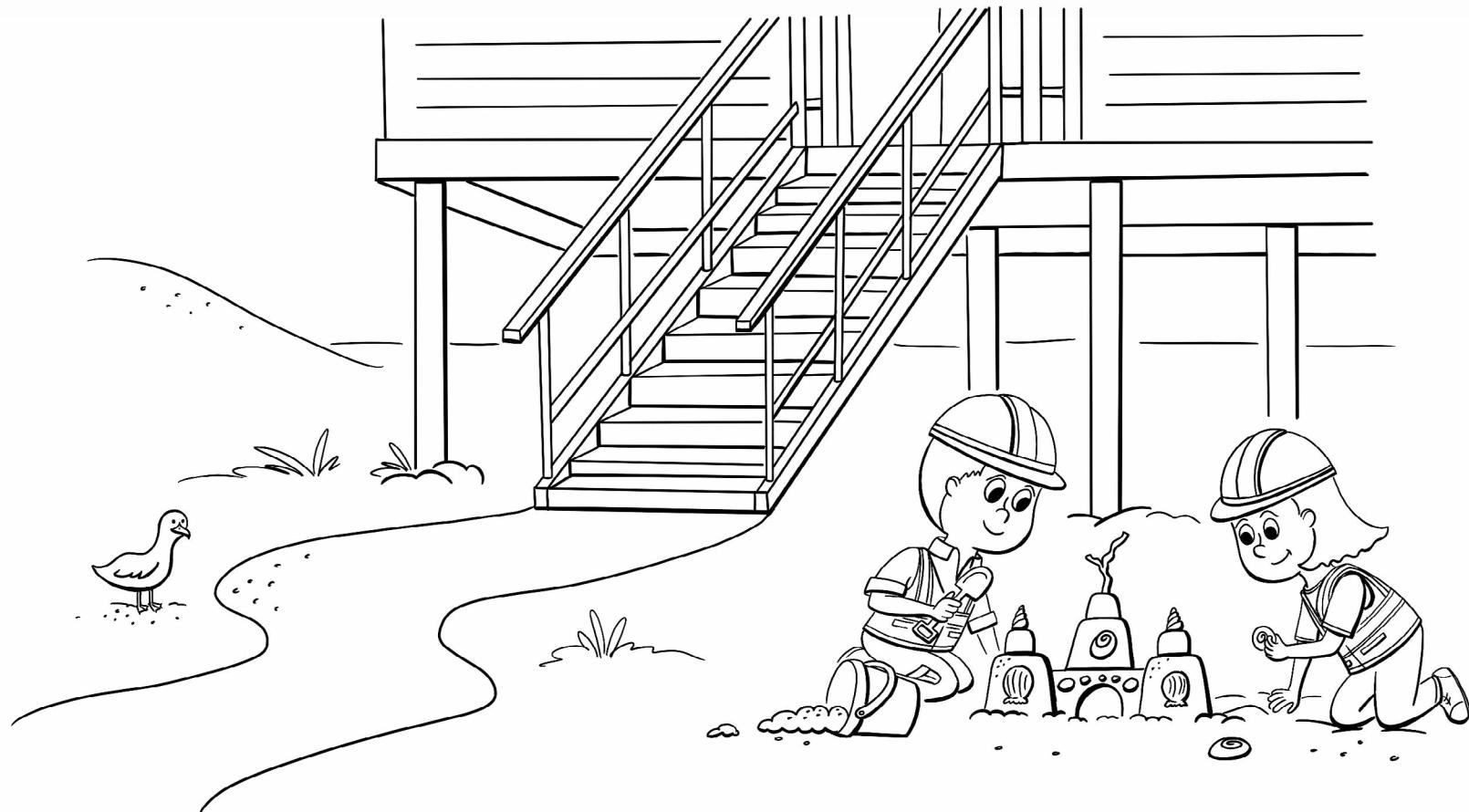
\_\_\_\_\_

ncolova

\_\_\_\_\_

ontcuotnica

\_\_\_\_\_



Building Codes

Natural Hazards

Floods

Tornadoes

Hurricanes

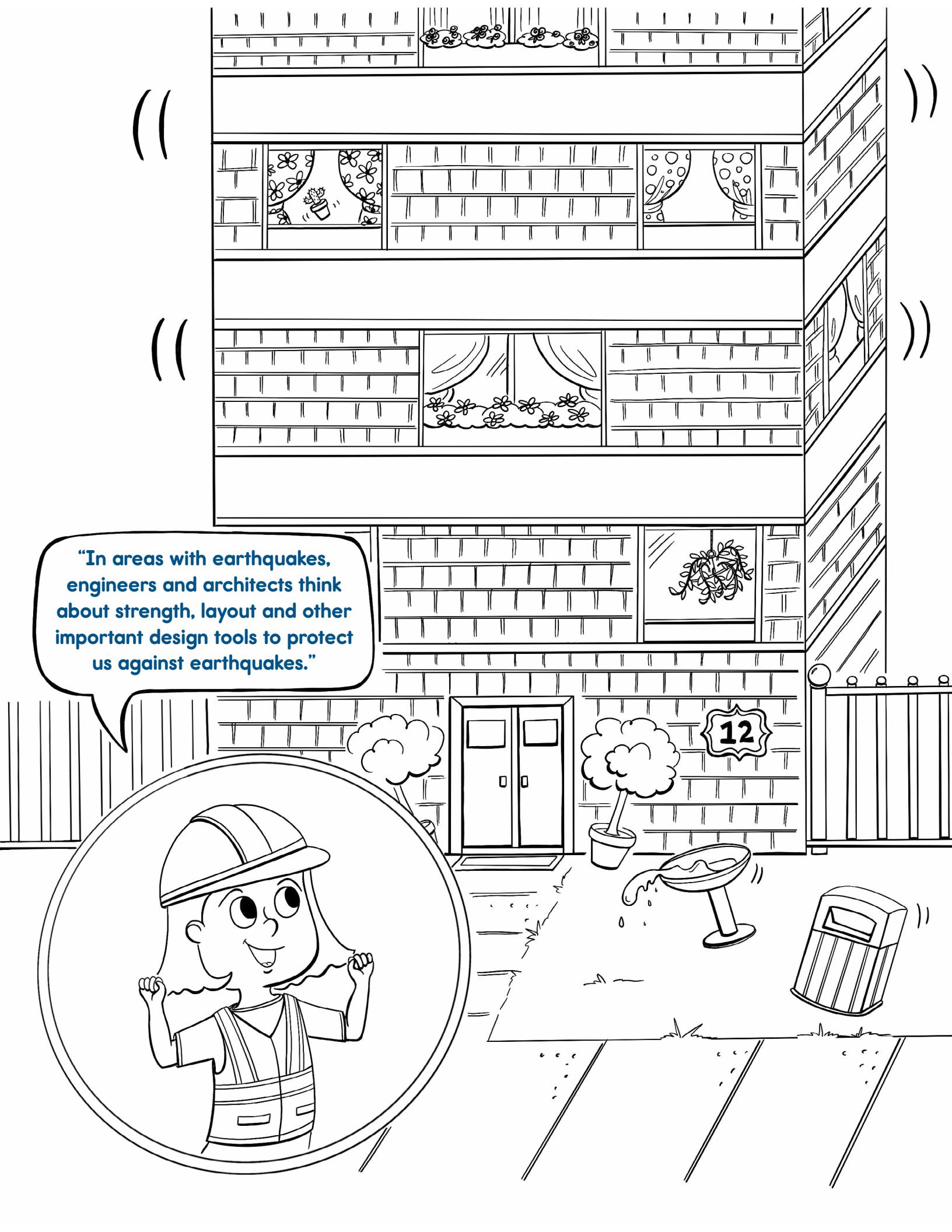
Volcano

Construction

Earthquakes

Construction

Construction



"In areas with earthquakes,  
engineers and architects think  
about strength, layout and other  
important design tools to protect  
us against earthquakes."

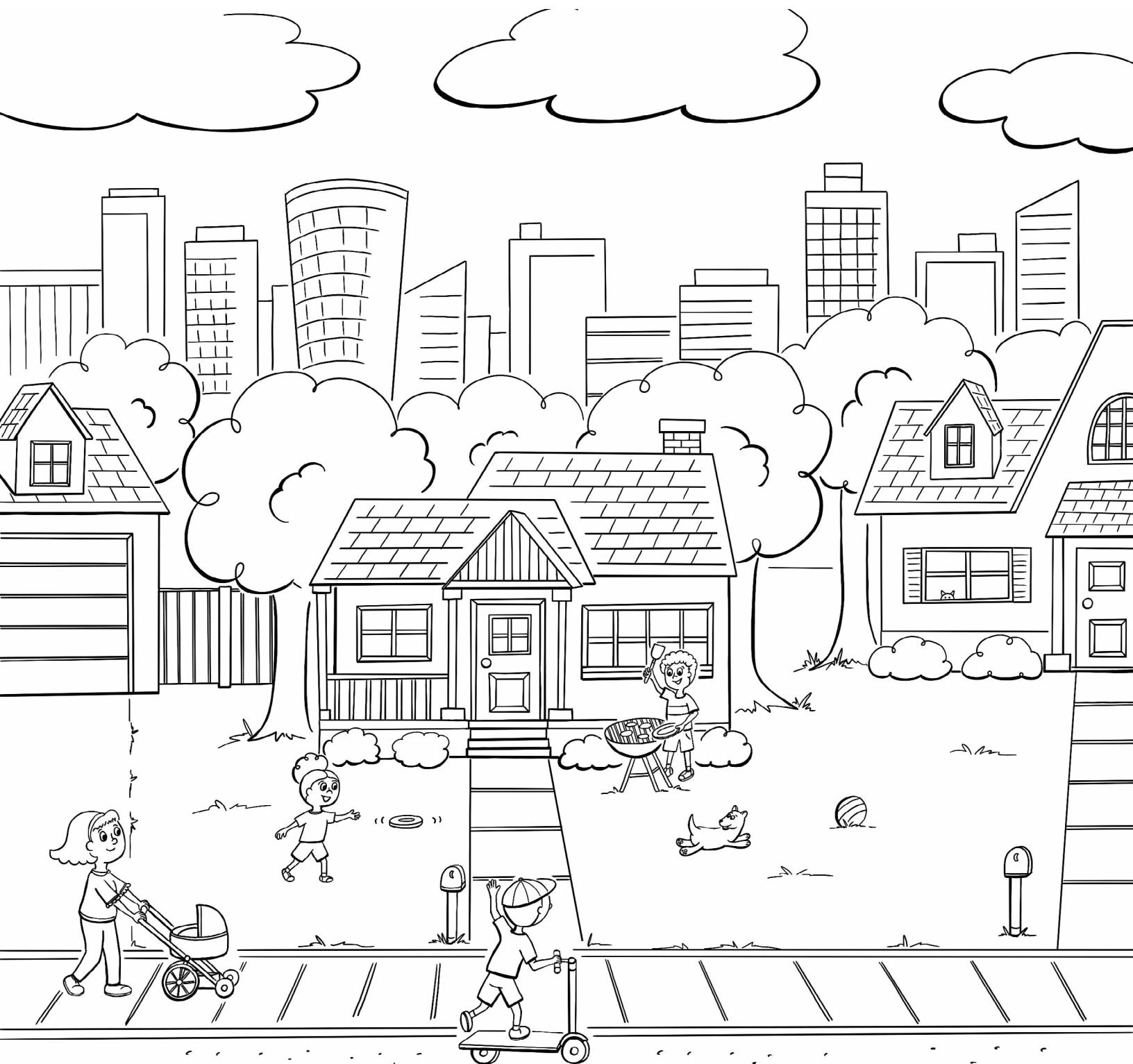


# Natural Hazard Word Search

H	U	R	R	I	C	A	N	E	D	S	G	K	R
A	T	N	H	H	T	D	R	A	Z	Z	I	L	B
T	G	E	I	O	S	A	O	C	Z	I	E	L	E
E	G	N	B	L	U	F	U	H	M	S	R	E	E
A	E	L	T	R	N	L	L	N	C	L	R	A	I
V	H	I	O	T	A	N	H	O	E	Q	N	R	L
A	Z	G	S	O	M	F	Q	N	O	Z	A	T	E
L	N	H	O	R	I	T	A	G	L	D	T	H	R
A	L	T	K	N	I	A	I	U	S	M	T	Q	R
N	A	N	C	A	N	B	D	A	N	R	R	U	D
C	N	I	U	D	T	U	G	D	S	O	C	A	L
H	N	N	V	O	L	C	A	N	O	T	C	K	O
E	D	G	O	N	A	N	Z	R	D	S	E	E	E
L	A	N	D	S	L	I	D	E	L	S	H	C	A

LANDSLIDE  
STORM  
FLOOD  
TORNADO  
HURRICANE  
TSUNAMI  
BLIZZARD  
VOLCANO  
LIGHTNING  
EARTHQUAKE

Find and circle the words that are hidden in the grid. The words may be hidden in any direction.

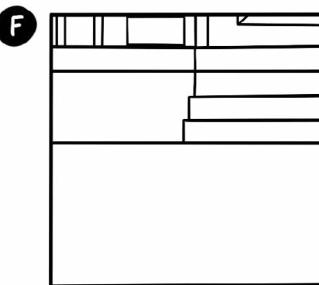
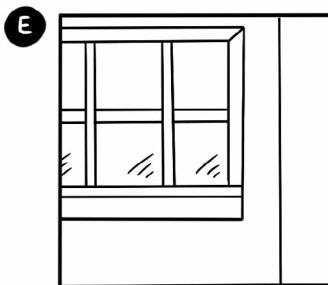
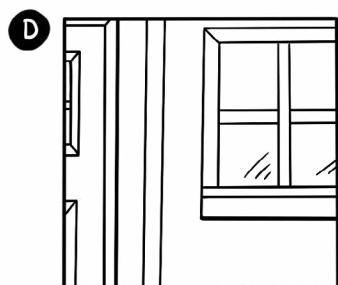
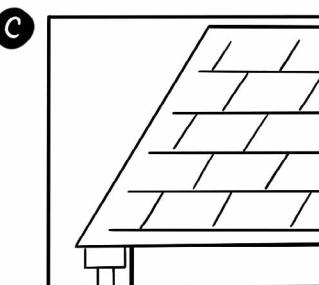
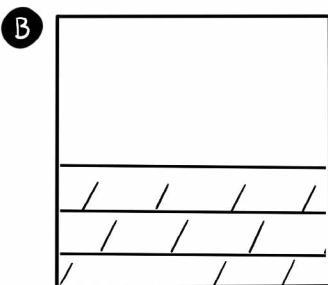
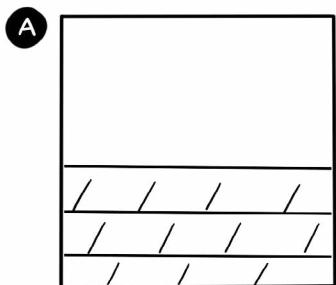
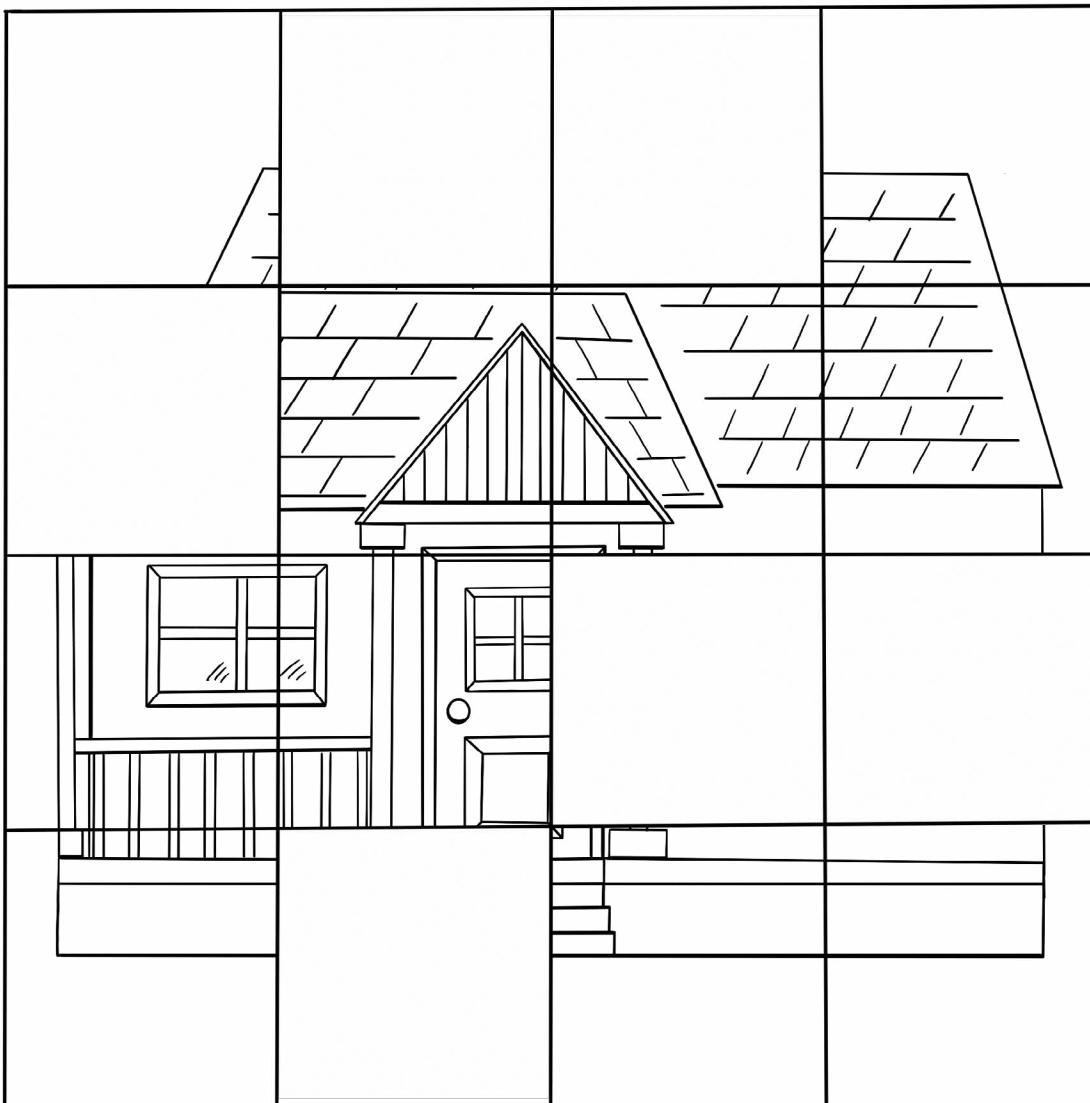


**"Hopefully, communities will use building codes to be safe and better protected from natural hazards!"**

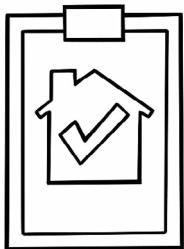


# Finish the Picture

Which pieces below complete the picture?



# Glossary



## Building Code

Building codes are sets of rules for the design, construction, alteration, and maintenance of structures.



## Earthquake

A sudden, violent shaking of the ground caused by the movement of giant plates in the Earth's crust.



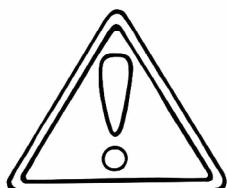
## Flood

An overflow of water onto normally dry land, or when heavy rain creates ponding areas.



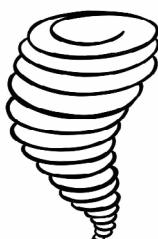
## Hurricane

An extremely large, powerful, and destructive storm with strong winds.



## Natural Hazards

Natural events that can cause great damage.



## Tornado

A dangerous rotating column of air touching the ground, usually attached to the base of a thunderstorm.

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