

40%

of Americans believe their pets have a sixth sense.

Lassie, we know, had a nose for trouble. Apparently, she's not alone. Nearly half of the 1,000 participants in an October 2010 poll conducted by the Associated Press and Petside.com reported believing that animals can sense when something bad is about to happen. And it's not just prescient pups. Many believe the trait extends to cats, fish, and hamsters too. A recent study published in the *Journal of Zoology* provides evidence of anticipatory behavior in toads as many as five days before impending earthquakes. But as for scientific proof that Fido and Fluffy can sense disasters, "the jury is still out," says Dr. Caitlin Gabor, an associate biology professor at Texas State University.

