Hazard in the Workplace

21st Century Skills

Grade Level 11

Overview
Before students step into the workforce, they need to learn about workplace hazards and they need to understand there the laws in place to protect workers. This lesson will provide students with a basic understanding of workplace safety and ways to reduce workplace injuries.

Learning Outcomes
At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Recognize and reduce hazards on the job.
- Identify laws that protect teens from working in dangerous jobs and from discrimination and harassment.
- Assess ways to solve health and safety problems in the workplace.
- Name some of the agencies that enforce health, safety and child labor laws.

Language Objectives
At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Verbally articulate their workplace experience and health/safety concerns they faced.
- Verbally relay main ideas and messages from the video, “Teen Workers, Real Jobs, Real Risks”.

California Career Resource Network, California Department of Education
Standards Alignment

- California Common Core State Standards: College & Career Readiness Anchor Standards:
  - SL. 4, 6
- California Career Technical Education Anchor Standards:
  - 6, 8
- California Standards for Career Ready Practice:
  - 2, 5
- National Career Development Guidelines:
  - ED 2, CM 4
- International Society for Technology in Education Standards:
  - 2, 4
- English Language Development Standards:
  - Part I: 1, 4, 5, 6, 10
  - Part II: 6
- American School Counselor Association Mindsets & Behaviors:
  - BSM 9

Materials

1. Computer with Internet access for students
2. Computer with Internet access and projection capability for instructor
3. Projector and screen
4. Instructor Resources
   - Workplace Safety Quiz Answer Key (pp. 9–10)
   - Workplace Safety for Teens PowerPoint (posted separately)
5. Student Handouts
   - Workplace Safety Quiz (p. 10)
   - Workplace Safety for Teens PowerPoint Outline (pp. 12–13)
6. Online Resources
   - Hazards in the Workplace Start-Up Video
     https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3_96oEr8uk
• **Teen Workers: Real Jobs, Real Risks** [WMV; 00:13:35]  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3rLzCKMHiiE

• **Are you a Working Teen Brochure: English** [PDF]  

• **Are you a Working Teen Brochure: Spanish** [PDF]  

**Academic Vocabulary**

- **Job Hazard**: is something unpleasant that you may suffer or experience as a result of doing your job.

- **Safety Hazard**: is any source of potential damage, harm, or adverse health effects on something or someone under certain conditions at work.

- **Work Permit**: is a legal document required by the State of California that allows a person under 18 years of age to hold a job.

**Activity**

Students will observe the “Workplace Safety for Teens” PowerPoint presentation, view the video, “Teen Workers: Real Jobs, Real Risks”, and participate in classroom discussions.

**Getting Ready**

- Preview the “Hazards in the Workplace” start-up video (link in Materials section)

- Preview the video, “Teen Workers: Real Jobs, Real Risks” (link in Materials section)

- Review the handouts and online resources

- Review Additional Resources
Lesson Procedures

1. Introduce the lesson by showing the “Hazards in the Workplace” start-up video (link in Materials section) and confirm students understand what to expect. Or you can introduce the lesson without the video by describing the topic of young worker safety.

2. Show PowerPoint slide 1.
   - Explain that today, we will be talking about staying safe at work. Ask students: How many of you have been introduced to this topic before? What key points do you remember?

   - Explain that many teens have jobs and that all types of workplaces have hazards. Inform students that in this class, they will learn:
     - Ways young workers can get hurt on the job
     - Common health and safety hazards on the job

4. Show PowerPoint slide 3. Start a warm up discussion using the following six questions from slide 3:
   - How many of you have ever had a job?
   - Where did you work?
   - What did you do?
   - Have you ever been hurt at work, or do you know someone who has?
   - Have you ever been uncomfortable with a task you’ve been asked to do at work?
   - Have you ever had any health and safety training at work?

5. Find out how much students already know about workplace health and safety and worker’s rights.
   - Hand out the “Job Safety Quiz”. Tell students it’s a brief quiz to see what they already know about this topic.
• Break the class into small groups of four to six students; tell them they will need to select a group reporter. Give them 5 minutes to complete the quiz.

• Go from group to group to see how they are doing.

• Bring the class back together.

• Call on the first group’s reporter. Have the student read the first question, give the group’s answer and explain it. Allow the class to briefly discuss the answer.

• Continue calling on groups until all five questions have been answered.

• Show the correct answers for each question on PowerPoint slides 5 and 6. (You can print out a quiz answer key).

• Tell students that they will learn more about these topics during this class period.


• It’s important to know that students can get hurt on the job.

• Before starting a new job, students should prepare to work safely.

• Along with working safely, it’s important to know you have rights, as well as responsibilities.

• A lot of teens get injured at work.
  
  o On average each year, 59,800 workers younger than 18 are sent to the emergency room for job-related injuries.
  
  o Thirty-seven workers younger than 18 die on the job each year.

7. Show PowerPoint slides 7 and 8.

• Explain that teens tend to work in the leisure/hospitality (restaurants) and retail (clothing stores and grocery stores) industries. Like all industries, there are certain hazards that come from doing that kind of work.
• These hazards are one of the main reasons workers get injured on the job. It may be that workers were not adequately trained to safely manage the hazards.


• Tell your students they will now watch a 13-minute video called “Teen Workers: Real Jobs, Real Risks” (link in Materials section). The video introduces some of the topics that will be covered in this lesson.

• Ask students to keep in mind these questions as they watch the video:
  o What are the main messages of the video?
  o What are the teens in the video telling you?
  o What are some health or safety hazards you see on the jobs in the video?

• When it’s over, have the class discuss the video as a whole. Ask students to debrief the questions above. Here are some possible messages from the video:
  o Most jobs have hazards
  o Teens do get injured at work
  o Teens often blame themselves when they are hurt at work. Instead they should look at the hazards that cause the injuries
  o Teens have rights on the job
  o Teens should speak up and ask questions if something at work worries them
  o Hazards on the job can be reduced and injuries can be prevented
  o Employers have a responsibility to make the workplace safe for workers

• Ask students, “What job hazards did you see in the video?” Possible answers include working with or around the following:
  o Dangerous/unguarded machinery
  o Meat slicers
21st Century Skills

Hazards in the Workplace

- Heavy boxes and other containers
- Hot liquids/fryers
- Work areas that are too crowded
- Time pressures/fast-paced work environments

9. Distribute copies of the Are You a Working Teen? Brochure

- Identify key questions the brochure addresses
- Ask students if they have additional questions about workplace safety

10. Show PowerPoint slide 10 and summarize this lesson. Ask students to share their comments or examples for each of the following bullet points. Start by saying, If you are a working teen, be sure you know about:

- Hazards to watch out for
- Your rights on the job
- Protecting yourself on the job
- Work Permits—all teens under 18 need a work permit from their school
- How long or late you can work

11. Wrap Up. Reaffirm for students the following points:

- Safety is important.
- It’s not something people consciously think about until after an accident.
- It’s everyone’s responsibility.

**Estimated Time**

One class session

**Evaluation**

- Job Safety Quiz and participation in class discussions.
Additional Resources

- **Youth@Work: Talking Safety Curriculum for California**

- **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**
  https://www.osha.gov/youngworkers/index.html

- **National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)**
  http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/

- **Youngworkers.org**
  http://youngworkers.org/

- **United States Department of Labor: Youth Rules!**
  https://www.youthrules.gov/

- **California Work Experience Education (WEE)**
  http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/we/

Adaptations

- Students can research OSHA and present findings to the class.

- Students can research work safety issues related to their potential occupations.

Attribution

This lesson was adapted from: The Centers for Disease Control, NIOSH Youth@Work Talking Safety Curriculum for California. DHHS (NIOSH) Publication Number 2015-173.

This lesson and all other lessons and materials are posted on the California Career Resource Network Web site at www.californiacareers.info.
Workplace Safety Quiz: Answer Key

1. The law says your employer must give you a safe and healthy place to work.
   - True
   - False

   The law says your employer must give you a safe and healthy place to work.

   This may include training you how to do your job safely. OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) makes sure employers follow workplace health and safety laws, and OSHA may make your employer train you about the hazards of your job.

2. The law limits how late you may work on a school night if you are under 16.
   - True
   - False

   The law limits how late you may work on a school night if you are under 16.

   The federal law says that if you are 14 or 15, you can work only until 7 p.m. on a school night. Some states also have rules about how late you can work if you are 16 or 17.

3. If you are 16 years old, you are allowed to drive a car on public streets as part of your job.
   - True
   - False

   If you are 16 years old, you cannot drive a car on public streets as part of your job.
Teens who are 16 can’t drive a car or truck on public streets as part of their job. Federal law does allow teens who are 17 to drive in very limited situations. Some states do not allow anyone under 18 to drive on the job. Child labor laws protect teens from doing dangerous work by listing the types of jobs and work activities that youth under age 18 may NOT perform.

4. **If you’re hurt on the job, your employer must pay for your medical care.**
   - True
   - False

If you’re injured on the job, your employer must pay for your medical care.

If you get hurt on the job, the law says your employer must provide workers’ compensation benefits. These include medical care for your injury.

5. **How often do teens get seriously hurt on the job in the United States?**
   - One every day
   - One every hour
   - One every 7 minutes

(Appproximately) one every 7 minutes.

Close to 60,000 teens (age 15 to 17 years) are treated each year in hospital emergency rooms for work-related injuries and illnesses. Only a third of injuries receive treatment in emergency rooms, so it is likely that about 180,000 teens suffer work-related injuries each year. About 37 teens (17 and under) in the United States die each year from job-related injuries. Young people are often hurt at work because of unsafe equipment or because of stressful conditions. Young workers also may not get enough safety training and supervision.

NOTE: Because these statistics change, we suggest you check each year to verify their accuracy.
Work together in your group to answer these questions. Guessing is okay! You won’t be graded on your answers. Pick one person in your group to report your answers later to the class.

Check the correct answer.

1. The law says your employer must give you a safe and healthy place to work.
   - True
   - False

2. The law limits how late you may work on a school night if you are under 16.
   - True
   - False

3. If you are 16 years old, you are allowed to drive a car on public streets as part of your job.
   - True
   - False

4. If you’re hurt on the job, your employer must pay for your medical care.
   - True
   - False

5. How often do teens get seriously hurt on the job in the United States?
   - One every day
   - One every hour
   - One every 7 minutes
Workplace Safety for Teens
PowerPoint*

You will learn about

- Ways young workers can get hurt on the job
- Common health and safety hazards on the job
- Ways to reduce or control workplace hazards
- Emergencies in the workplace and how to respond
- What to do if you see something at work that could hurt you or make you sick
- What legal rights and responsibilities young people have at work

What is Your Experience with Work?

- How many of you have ever had a job?
- Where did you work?
- What did you do?
- Have you ever been hurt at work, or do you know someone who has?
- Have you ever been uncomfortable with a task you’ve been asked to do at work?
- Have you ever had any health and safety training at work?

Take the Job Safety Quiz

Teen Worker Injury Statistics

- Approximately 1.6 million teens (aged 15–17) in the United States work. About 50% of 10th graders and 75% of 12th graders have jobs.
- Many youths are injured on the job.
- On average, each year
  - 59,800 workers younger than 18 are sent to the ER for job-related injuries, but actual injury statistics are much higher.
  - 37 workers younger than 18 die on the job.
  - Young workers are twice as likely to be injured as adult workers.

*From Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Youth@Work, Talking Safety
21st Century Skills

Hazards in the Workplace

Teen Worker Employment Statistics

Where Teens Work:
% of total workers, ages 15–17, per industry

Teen Worker Injury Statistics

Where Teens Are Injured on the job:
% of total workers, ages 15–17, per industry