

BACKGROUND

In today's activity, we'll be learning about hazards in our workplace.

Young workers can get injured in many different ways. It would be impossible for us to list all of the workplace hazards you could face in a lifetime.

In order to protect yourself from workplace hazards, you need to know how to identify them.

ACTIVITY

A hazard is anything at work that can hurt you, either physically or mentally.

There are four main types of hazards:

Safety hazards are things that can cause injury, illness, or death. Safety hazards cause immediate injuries.

- Examples include hot surfaces, slippery floors, sharp knives, or falling objects.

Chemical hazards are gases, vapors, liquids or dusts that can harm your body.

- Examples include cleaning products and pesticides.
- Chemicals can get inside your body when you breathe them in, swallow them, or get them on your skin.

Biological hazards are living things that can cause infections such as flu, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, Lyme disease and tuberculosis (TB).

- Examples include bacteria, viruses, and molds. In the workplace, you can be exposed through contact with used needles, sick children, or sick animals.

Other health hazards are other harmful things that can injure you or make you sick. These hazards are sometimes less obvious because they may not cause health problems right away.

- For example, loud noises or repetitive movements can cause injuries over time.

Recognizing hazards is important for your health and safety and will help you avoid injuries.

Some hazards are obvious, while others are not. To be safe you need to be able to identify different types of hazards.

