

2 WORKPLACE HAZARDS

PURPOSE

Identifying hazards in the workplace is the first step to preventing an injury. This activity introduces young workers to the concept of workplace hazards and helps them start thinking about hazards they may encounter on the job.

ACTIVITY TIME

Approximately 15 minutes

PREPARATION

- The Hazard Cards can be found at:
www.promotingusafetyhealth.com
Click on "Start the Conversation Activities," then find the "Workplace Hazards" activity and click on the "Handout" link OR photocopy the cards from the back of the book on pages 114–123. Print the Hazard Cards sheet, letter size, single sided, then trim in quarters.
- Print PUSH Cards.

DIRECTIONS

Supervisor reads out loud

Supervisor reads out loud

SUPERVISOR READS QUESTION

✘ *Do not read out loud*



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PUSH is an Oregon Healthy Workforce Center Project funded through the NIOSH Total Worker Health Center of Excellence Grant U19OH10154.

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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.

WHAT HAZARDS DO WE HAVE AT OUR WORKPLACE?

- ✘ *Call on people and discuss their answers. Pass out Hazard ID cards to the group.*

On the back of your card you will find an example of a hazard. Think about what type of hazard you have: safety, chemical, biological, or other.

If you have a safety hazard on your card raise your hand.

- ✘ *Let young workers share their answers. Correct answers are listed on the chart on the next page.*

HOW ABOUT YOUR DAY-TO-DAY LIFE, OUTSIDE OF WORK?

- ✘ *Call on three staff and coach them through as needed.*

Great. Nice job. These are some good examples.

If you have a chemical hazard on your card raise your hand.

- ✘ *Let young workers share their answers. Correct answers are listed on the chart on the next page.*

CAN YOU GIVE SOME EXAMPLES OF CHEMICAL HAZARDS FROM YOUR OWN LIFE?

- ✘ *Call on a few people.*

If you have a biological hazard on your card, raise your hand.

- ✘ *Let young workers share their answers. Correct answers are listed on the chart on the next page.*

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS FROM YOUR OWN LIFE?

- ✘ *Call on a few people.*

If you have an “other” hazard raise your hand.

- ✘ *Let young workers share their answers. Correct answers are listed on the chart on the next page.*

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF “OTHER” HAZARDS FROM YOUR OWN LIFE?

- ✘ *Call on a few people.*

Good job, everyone. The important lesson to take away from this exercise is that hazards are all around us, but we can protect ourselves from them. Identifying these hazards is the first step.

PUSH FORWARD

- ✘ *Pass out PUSH cards.*

On your card is a link to the Promoting U through Safety and Health page (www.promotingusafetyhealth.com). If you follow this page you can learn about other ways to stay safe at home and at work.

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HAZARD CARDS – ACTIVITY ANSWERS



SAFETY

- Hot popcorn machine
- Meat slicer
- Spilled liquids
- Heavy lifting
- Scissors
- Violence
- Lifting objects
- Slides
- Knife
- Hot grease
- Table saw
- Lifeguard stand
- Ladders
- Electrical circuits
- Falling objects
- Bear attack

CHEMICAL

- Radiation
- Chlorine
- Bleach
- Gasoline
- Pesticides

BIOLOGICAL

- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- HIV
- Blood
- Viruses
- Bee-sting
- Spider bite
- Bacteria
- Used needles
- Poison Oak
- Mold

OTHER

- Typing on a keyboard for long periods of time
- 90° day
- Loud noises
- Awkward posture
- Stress
- Fast pace of work
- Being tired at work