

Unloading hay

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Elevator is in good working order
- All safety features are in place
- Work area has no hazards
- Child has been fitted for a respirator and shown how to use it
- Child wears long sleeved shirt, long pants, wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Long hair is tied up
- Child has at least one ten-minute break every hour
- Child drinks a quart of fluids every hour



Can your child do this job?

ABILITY

Can the child bend and lift safely?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to bend and lift correctly in order to do this job safely.

If a PTO-powered elevator is used, can the child connect and disconnect the PTO?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult should connect and disconnect the PTO.

Do the bales the child will lift weigh less than 10-15% of his or her body weight?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children lifting more than 15% of their body weight are more likely to injure their backs.

Can the child balance and walk along an 8-foot 2x4 while carrying 10-15% of his or her body weight (for example, a weighted suitcase)?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who can't balance and maneuver weight are more likely to be injured.

Is the child going through a growth spurt? For example, is he or she clumsy or frequently changing clothing size?

- Yes. **STOP** STOP! Children in periods of rapid growth become less flexible, increasing the chance of muscle strain and injury to back and joints.
- No.

Can the child repeat a manual procedure for 50 minutes without becoming exhausted?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children working beyond their endurance are more likely to be injured.

Can the child recognize a hazard and solve the problem without getting upset?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to recognize hazards, think about how to respond, and stay calm to prevent injury.

Is your child responsible? Do you trust your child to do what's expected without anyone checking?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Irresponsible behavior can lead to injury.

TRAINING

Has the child been trained on lifting techniques?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Lifting incorrectly can cause back injury.

If a bale hook is used, has an adult demonstrated proper use?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Training is needed to prevent injury.

Has an adult demonstrated unloading hay on site?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children learn best when shown how to do the job at the work site.

Has the child shown he or she can do the job safely 4 to 5 times under close supervision?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult must watch constantly until the child shows he or she can do the job.

SUPERVISION

Can an adult supervise as recommended?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The right level of supervision is key to preventing injuries.

Main Hazards



Sun can cause heat exhaustion



Weight of bales can strain muscles



Repetitive motion can strain muscles and injure back and joints

Remember



Non-skid shoes



Leather gloves

Supervision

What's the right amount? Here are suggestions—but remember, it depends on the child.

Age 14-15:

CHECK every few minutes at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes, then make sure the child is lifting correctly and not showing signs of fatigue.

Age 16+:

When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes, then make sure the child is lifting correctly and not showing signs of fatigue.