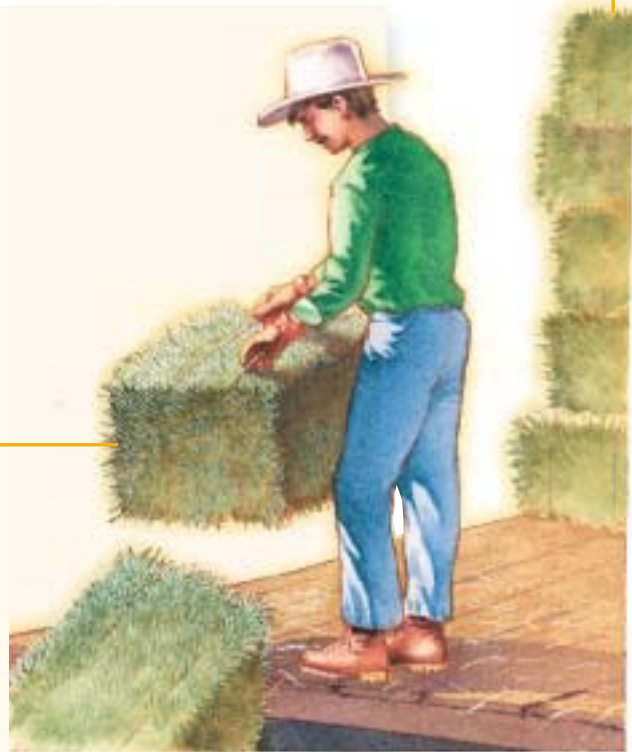


Loading square bales onto wagon

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- 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
- Child has at least one ten-minute break every hour
- Child drinks a quart of fluids every hour



Can your child do this job?

Main Hazards



Weight of bales strain muscles



Wagon movement can cause slips and falls



Sun can cause heat exhaustion

ABILITY

Can the child lift safely?
(See "Lifting")

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

Do the bales weigh less than 10-15% of the child's 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 fall off the wagon.

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 coordinated, increasing the chance of falling off the wagon.
- 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 react quickly?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children need quick reactions to avoid 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 the child been trained to use it?

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

Has an adult demonstrated loading square bales onto a wagon 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? (An adult must drive the tractor when a child is loading square bales onto a wagon.)

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

Remember



Non-skid shoes



Respirator as needed



Leather gloves

Supervision

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

Age 16+:
CHECK every few minutes, then make sure the child is lifting and bending correctly and not showing signs of fatigue.