Climbing

Can youth do this job safely?

Youth must be able to do/have all of the following to perform this job safely:

- Comfortable with heights, good balance
- Mature enough to consistently do what is expected
- Thinks through actions and consequences before acting
- Received appropriate training
- Climb safely using 3 points of contact; using proper climbing technique
- Keep hands free of tools/objects while climbing
- Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- Maintain two-way communication link



Adult Responsibilities

- Comply with working outdoors guideline (if applicable)
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Ensure climbing structure/ladder is safe and complies with ANSI/CSA standards
- Ensure ladder size matches the young worker
- Verify ladder weighs less than 25% of youth's body weight
- Confirm youth is free of medical conditions/medications that affect his or her ability to climb
- Provide fall arrest equipment, if needed
- Demonstrate how to climb safely and provide training

Supervision

Note: *Ability to climb and maximum climbing height should not be based only upon age, but also by assessment of:*

- *Hand size, grip strength, limb length*
- *Size/shape of rungs, distance between rungs*
- *Type of ladder*
- *Landing surface*

10-11 yrs	Constant supervision
12+ yrs	Constant supervision progressing to periodic, based on ability and ladder characteristics

Hazards



Slippery/ uneven surfaces | Weight | Heights | Distractions | Electrical

Protective Strategies



Non-skid shoes | Gloves | Communication Tools | Drink Fluids | Handwashing



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