Using a Front End Loader

Can youth do this job safely?

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

- Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- Able to safely operate a tractor
- Good peripheral vision
- Use hands and feet simultaneously
- Reach and operate controls while wearing a seatbelt
- Understand and consistently repeat a 10-step process
- Understand the importance of checking for people/ obstacles in the area
- Mature enough to consistently do what is expected
- Think through actions and consequences before acting
- React quickly to hazards
- Recognize a hazard, problem solve, and respond appropriately
- Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- Maintain two-way communication link



Adult Responsibilities

- Comply with working outdoors guideline
- Ensure front end loader is mechanically sound and safety features are in place
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Ensure youth does not operate equipment after dark/in bad weather
- Demonstrate how to safely operate a front end loader
- Provide appropriate training
- Train youth to call an adult if equipment malfunctions

Supervision

Note: Ensure tractor is sized appropriately for youth. Youth must be 16+ years to operate a front end loader on a tractor over 20hp. See Tractor Operations Chart for guidance.

14-15 yrs	Constant supervision progressing to intermittent
16+ yrs	Intermittent supervision

Hazards



Lift arms pin operator | Hydraulic hose rupture/ injection | Rollover | Run-over | Collision with objects

Protective Strategies



Seatbelt | Non-skid shoes | Gloves | Operator's manual | Hearing protection (if needed)



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