

# Repairing fence

## Adult responsibilities

### ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Child has safe transport to the field
- Work area has no hazards
- Child knows an escape route
- Child can communicate with adult by cellular phone, walkie-talkie or other method
- 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?

### ABILITY

#### Can the child lift safely?

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

#### Are fence repair tools the right size for the child?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The wrong size tools can cause injury.

#### Do the fence repair materials 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.

#### Does the child have good eye-hand coordination? For example, can the child place a key in a lock?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Good eye-hand coordination is needed to prevent injury.

#### Can the child understand and repeat from memory a 10-step process?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who can't remember the steps to a job are more likely to be injured.

#### Can the child stay focused on a job up to 50 minutes?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children working beyond their attention span are easily distracted and 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 to use fence repair tools?

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

#### Has an adult demonstrated repairing fence 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



Weight of fencing materials can strain muscles



Sharp tools can cut skin

## Remember



Eye protection



Non-skid shoes



Leather gloves

## Supervision

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

**Age 12-13:** WATCH constantly.

**Age 14-15:** WATCH nearly constantly at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, CHECK every few minutes.

**Age 16+:** When the child shows he or she can do the job, LEAVE for 15 or 30 minutes.