

GLC20 Unit 3: Preparations for Change

Activity 6 Work Safety

Overview

Work is an important part of our lives. Although work is important, there are rights and responsibilities that workers have in order to protect themselves from unfair practices.

Lesson

Young people often have little experience or training when it comes to working safely. To find out what you need to do to keep yourself safe on the job - whether it's at a co-op placement, a part-time job in a retail environment, or a summer job on a construction site - go to the website for the **Young Worker Awareness Program** at www.youngworker.ca/en/flash/index.html. Click the **Status: New Job** tab to learn more about your *Rights and Responsibilities*, when to *Refuse Unsafe Work* and *the 7 Things You Should Know*.

Assignment

1. Answer the following questions based on what you have learned from the Young Workers website:
 - a) What are your 3 rights and responsibilities?
 - b) What are the 7 things you should know?
 - c) Identify and explain when you should refuse unsafe work
2. Read the scenario below and answer the following questions.

Your parent/guardian tells you to cancel all your plans for Saturday because you are going to spend the day cleaning the home. Not just a light cleaning, but a deep cleaning, which will take six to eight hours to complete and will require you to move all the furniture as well. You will also have to work with some very powerful cleaners. You are to work the full six to eight hours without a break and without a meal.

- a) Describe the responsibility or job you have been given and the conditions under which you are expected to work.
- b) Are these conditions reasonable? Why or why not?
- c) Which conditions specifically do you find unacceptable?
- d) What needs to change in order for these conditions to be more reasonable or acceptable?
- e) What, if anything, would you do in an attempt to change these conditions?