

# Operating a skid steer

## Adult responsibilities

### ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Equipment is in good working order
- All safety features are in place
- Child does not operate the skid steer after dark or in bad weather
- Work area has no hazards
- Long hair is tied up

## Can your child do this job?

### ABILITY

Can the child reach and operate all controls while wearing a seatbelt?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who can't operate the controls are more likely to be injured.

Does the child have good peripheral vision? For example, while looking straight ahead, can the child see your finger entering his or her field of vision at shoulder level?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children with limited vision may not see people or obstacles in the work area.

Can the child use hands and feet at the same time? For example, can the child run and dribble a basketball?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children who lack coordination may not be able to safely drive a skid steer.

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 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.

Can the child react quickly?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children need quick reactions to avoid injury.



Does the child do things that seem dangerous for the thrill of it?

- Yes. **STOP** STOP! Children who take risks or behave dangerously are more likely to be injured
- No.

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.

Does the child usually go with his or her "gut" feeling without thinking too much about what could happen next?

- Yes. **STOP** STOP! Children who act on impulse are more likely to be injured.
- No.

### TRAINING

Has an adult demonstrated operating a skid steer 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



Slippery/uneven surface can lead to slips, trips and falls

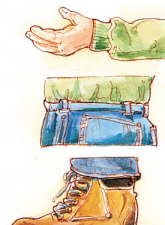


Lift arms can pin operator



Collision with obstacles can cause injury

## Remember



Tight-fitting clothes



Non-skid shoes



Hearing protection

## Supervision

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

**Age 16+:** **WATCH** nearly constantly at first. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **CHECK** every few minutes.