

Calf pens or hutches

cleaning

Adult responsibilities

ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Ventilation system is working before the child enters a closed building
- All shields and guards are in place on barn cleaner system
- Work area has no hazards
- Child knows an escape route
- Animals have no disease

Can your child do this job?



Can the child react quickly?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Because calves and heifers behave unpredictably, children need quick reactions to avoid injury.

TRAINING

Has the child been trained on animal behavior?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children who don't know animal behavior patterns are more likely to be injured.

Has the child been trained on lifting and pushing techniques?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Lifting or pushing incorrectly can cause back injury.

Has an adult demonstrated cleaning calf pens or hutches on site?

- Yes.
- No. **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!** The right level of supervision is key to preventing injuries.

ABILITY

Can the child lift safely? (See "Lifting")

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

Is the child comfortable around calves or heifers?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children who are uncomfortable around calves or heifers are more likely to be injured.

Can the child reach and operate barn cleaner controls from a balanced, standing position?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult should operate the barn cleaner controls.

Is the child strong enough to control calves or heifers?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children who can't control calves or heifers are more likely to be injured.

Do the materials to be lifted weigh less than 10-15% of the child's body weight?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children lifting more than 15% of their body weight are more likely to injure their backs.

Can the child easily push up to 10-15% of his or her body weight?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP!** Children who have to strain to push a heavy object are more likely to injure their backs.

Is the fork or scraper the right size for the child?

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

Main Hazards



Animal kicks, step-ons, and head-butts can cause injury



Contact with electrical wires can cause shock



Weight of manure can strain muscles

Supervision

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

Age 12-13: **WATCH** constantly if animals are not secured. If the animals are secured, **WATCH** nearly constantly.

Age 14-15: 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 to 30 minutes.

Remember



Steel-toed shoes with non-skid soles



Good handwashing



Leather gloves