

Spot the Hazard

Identifying potential dangers and discussing how

Overview

Participants will review the picture provided (4 are available) and see how many unsafe items they can “spot.” This may include things shown outright in the photo (such as a spill on the floor), as well as things that can be inferred by the photo (such as a person wearing a coat indoors may suggest the temperature is an issue).

Variations

1. All participants can look at the same photo (shown on a screen) - full group discussion.
2. Break participants into groups to look at the same photo, then come back and discuss (input from all groups).
3. Break participants into groups to look at different photos. When the groups all come back together, have each group give a background of their photo, and show a few (or all) of the hazards they identified.
4. Give everyone a photo and let them look on their own first. Then, break participants into groups based on their photo and have them discuss what they found.

Discussion

Encourage discussion for each spotted hazard to include questions like:

1. Why did you identify this as a hazard?
2. Who could get hurt?
3. What types of injuries could it cause? (this may include, a slip/trip/fall, pulled muscle, burn, cut or laceration, frost bite, etc.)
4. What could be changed in this situation to make sure this doesn't hurt anyone? (this may include someone taking action—“this spill should get cleaned up”, or a change to the environment—“ventilation should be added to this room,” or anything else that could prevent an injury.

Additional Information

Definition of “HAZARD” - A hazard is any source of potential damage, harm, or adverse health effects on something or someone under certain conditions.

Basic definition is, “anything that could cause harm.”

Every worker is responsible for protecting their own health and safety, as well as those around them, when they are at work. They must report anything unsafe and do what they can (if it is within their responsibilities) to eliminate the hazard.

Some hazards don't pose a large risk to workers. For example, you may have knives at home, but if