Careful Country
Farm Safety
Coloring and Activity Book

This book belongs to: _____________________________
Dear Farm Family,

Agriculture’s greatest resource is not its abundance of deep fertile soil, or ideal climate or consistent rainfall, nor is it the technology that has removed much of the drudgery of producing crops and livestock. No, the greatest resource is the people involved with every aspect of agricultural production. More specifically, with respect to the future of agriculture, it is your children.

Like most parents, you have worked hard to provide the very best for your children. They are healthier, safer, better fed and clothed, better educated and more able to determine their future than any previous generation. Farm-related injuries, however, continue to take an unacceptable toll on our young people. Injuries continue to be the number one killer of children. Each year hundreds of children living on farms and ranches die as the result of injuries and thousands more are left with permanent, life-changing disabilities. No other occupation in this country exposes so many children on a daily basis to the hazards of the workplace than agriculture.

We encourage you to spend a few minutes with your younger children, or your grandchildren while they are still most impressionable, to go through the contents of this book and explain the safety messages presented with each drawing. The hazards discussed have been selected to reflect the most frequent causes of childhood injuries on the farm or ranch. Emphasize the fact that most injuries are the result of incorrect or inappropriate choices and are preventable.

The information you provide your children, the decisions you make concerning their activities, and the daily example you set for them will have a direct influence on their well-being. Finally, let your children know on a continual basis (daily) that the limits you place on their behavior or activities and your concern for their safety is because you care about them – because you love them. Remember, there is no greater motivating force than love, and be assured, your children will respond to it.

Have a safe day from all of the following who made this publication possible.

Indiana Rural Safety and Health Council

Purdue University’s Agricultural Safety & Health Program

Clarian Health

Purdue University’s Department of 4-H/Youth

Montgomery & Associates.
Parent Alert: Being run over by a tractor accounts for nearly 20 percent of all farm-related fatalities involving children. For children between the ages of 1 and 11, runovers are the most frequent cause of farm-related deaths. Most children lack the physical strength to hang on during a sudden turn or when bumped. A tractor is no place for a child to ride.
Parent Alert: Riding on the drawbar is unsafe for both children and adults. It’s even more hazardous when the tractor is towing equipment. Being runover by trailing equipment accounts for nearly 18 percent of farm-related deaths involving children. Never allow children to ride as an extra rider on a tractor or an implement.
Parent Alert: Tractor rollovers account for one of every five deaths involving children on the farm. They are the most frequent cause of farm-related fatalities for teenagers. If possible, equip your farm tractors with a Roll-Over Protective Structure (ROPS) and seat belts. Before operating equipment, teenagers need appropriate training and should be carefully supervised until they become familiar with the task.
**Parent Alert:** Entanglements in farm equipment can result in very serious injuries, and sometimes death. Nearly 10 percent of child fatalities on the farm are caused by entanglements in augers, PTO drivelines, belts and pulleys and other moving parts. Keep all shields in place and in good condition. Areas where equipment is operating should be off-limits to young children.
Parent Alert: The number one cause of fatal injuries for children, both farm and non-farm, are motor vehicle accidents. Seat belts could prevent many of these injuries. Children should never be transported in the open bed of a pickup truck. Use approved child safety seats when traveling with young children.
Parent Alert: Approximately 80 percent of all fatal farm-related injuries involve a male member of the family. Young boys between the ages of 1 and 15 years old have an especially high risk of injury. Take time to teach your children the safe way to do a job.
Parent Alert: A peak period for serious farm-related injuries involving children is right after they get home from school. Children, especially younger ones, have high energy levels during this time period and need extra supervision.
Parent Alert: June, July and August are peak months for farm-related injuries to children. Being out of school increases their exposure to risks around the farm when working or playing. Children should only be given tasks that are appropriate for their age and abilities.
Parent Alert: For farm children between the ages of 1 and 5, the greatest risk of serious injury occurs during the fall harvest. In many cases these injuries involve children brought into the workplace as extra riders. Alternative forms of child-care during the busy seasons could help prevent childhood injuries.
**Parent Alert:** Falls are one of the most common causes of injuries on the farm. Children are especially at risk due to their lack of fear of heights and love for climbing. Silos, grain bins, center legs, and other tall structures should be off-limits to your children.
**Parent Alert:** Bulls, rams, boars and other mother animals with young are very unpredictable and can cause severe injuries. Children attracted to young animals, for example, can be injured by the mother who is simply trying to protect her young.
DAD, CAN I RIDE ON THE GRAIN WAGON?

NO, SON! IT LOOKS SAFE BUT IT WOULD BE TOO EASY TO BECOME TRAPPED IN THE GRAIN.

⚠️ Parent Alert: Each year several children die as the result of being engulfed and suffocated in flowing grain or feed. This can happen in a truck bed, gravity flow wagon, grain bin or feed storage bin. Children should never be allowed to play or ride in grain transport vehicles or storage facilities.
Parent Alert: Drowning is one of the top three causes of death for rural children. Swimming areas should be carefully selected, maintained and equipped with life saving equipment. Take the time to teach your children how to swim and never let them swim alone. Other potentially hazardous sites such as manure lagoons and irrigation canals should also be off-limits to children.
Parent Alert: Even though pesticides and other agricultural chemicals cause few child-related deaths, they should be treated with the utmost care. Acids, pipe line cleaners, solvents and other hazardous material should be kept out of reach and off-limits. The numbers for the local Poison Control Center and Emergency Medical Service should be posted by all your phones.
Parent Alert: Fires, smoke inhalation and burns are a leading cause of death and injury for rural children. Smoke detectors are a proven means of providing a warning in the event of a fire. They will only work, however, if the battery is charged.
**Parent Alert:** ATVs have become an important piece of equipment on many farms and ranches. However, they are also the source of many serious injuries involving children. An appropriate sized machine, training, personal protective equipment and supervision are essential to reduce the risk of injuries while using ATVs.
⚠️ Parent Alert: In many cases, children injured in farm-related accidents were alone at the time they were injured. There is no substitute for adequate supervision in order to protect your children from hazards. Provide your children with a safe place to play away from work areas.
SAFETY PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. __________ should never be allowed to work with agricultural chemicals.
2. To prevent entanglement, the __________ guard should be kept in place.
3. Children playing with matches can cause __________.
4. __________ work in the country and need to be careful when operating machinery.
7. __________ can occur while operating the tractor on side hills or along ditchbanks.
8. One reason that parents set limits for their children is that they __________ about them.
11. Every tractor would be safer if it was equipped with a __________.

DOWN
1. Farmers can get caught in machinery if they wear loose __________.
5. Farm __________ involves the whole family.
6. Most child-related fatalities on the farm involve __________ and machinery.
9. Riding on the drawbar with a trailing machine can lead to a fall and __________.
10. Only __________ person should be on the tractor during operation.

(Answers on the following page)
SAFETY WORD SEARCH

Try to find the following words up and down, across and diagonal.

farm  safe  tractor  ROPS  seat belt
parents  injury  911  cow  be careful
PTO  chemicals  falls  bump  first aid
CPR  pesticides  fire  ATV  helmet
cautions  danger  warning  shield
love  caution  danger  warning  shield

B A F I R S T A I D O R
E U T Y C A U T I O N L
C X M V W 9 F R V C R M
A D G P A I A D H O P
R A E E R 1 R C R E P A
E N S N M E T Y M S R
F G M T I K G O G I X E
U E V I N J U R Y C H N
L R W C G P A C L A E T
H O I I P S R F A L L S
C O V D S R D L X S M A
S H I E L D B P T O E F
M T R S E A T B E L T E
There are a variety of organizations and individuals you can turn to for information to help make your home, farm or ranch safer for your children. A good way to begin the search for child safety information is to do an inventory of local resources such as those provided through the Cooperative Extension Service Office, Farm Bureau, FFA Program, hospital or Public Health Department. Other possible contacts include:

- Fire Departments
- Law enforcement agencies
- Red Cross
- Utility companies
- Implement dealerships
- Insurance companies
- Emergency medical services

Several national organizations also have child safety information available. These include:

Farm Safety 4 Just Kids
P.O. Box 458
Earham, IA 50072-2827
Phone: (515) 758-2827
Fax: (515) 758-2517
www.fs4jk.org

Farm Safety Day Camps
Progressive Farmer Foundation
P.O. Box 530425
Birmingham, AL 35253
Phone: 1-888-257-3529
www.progressivefarmer.com

National Safe Kids Campaign
1301 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Ste 1000
Washington, DC 20004-1707
Phone: (202) 662-0600
Fax: (202) 393-2072
www.safekids.org

National Safety Council
1121 Spring Lake Drive
Itasca, IL 60143-3201
Phone: (630) 285-1121
Fax: (630) 285-1315
www.nsc.org

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Purdue University
1146 ABE Building
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1146
Phone: (765) 494-5013
Fax: (765) 496-1356
www.farmsafety.org
DRAW A SAFETY POSTER
FOR YOUR FAMILY'S REFRIGERATOR