

SAFETY AWARENESS

Brief Topic Safety Refresher Training For Associates

2024

Teaching Good Housekeeping

It is natural for the classroom to be a boisterous and dynamic place, with students sometimes performing different types of tasks at the same time. Cleanup is an essential part of every activity—and not just for the purpose of instilling good habits in students. Without it, the classroom would become a chaotic obstacle course, necessitating navigation through a mess of materials, spills and tools. Not only would it be aggravating, but it would also be very dangerous. Slips, trips and falls are a common cause of injury on the job, and inadequate housekeeping is a major contributing factor in most of these accidents.

What is Housekeeping?

Avoiding dangerous conditions like those described above requires your commitment to practicing and teaching good housekeeping habits. This means making spill cleanup, prompt post-task cleanup, general cleaning, and use of effective organization methods a priority every day, throughout the day.

Good housekeeping also means constant vigilance. Remove any object or material that obstructs a pathway or aisle, and take care of any other items that could pose a possible danger for students. This includes:

- Backpacks or bags
- Food
- Garbage
- Sharp objects

Do's

Follow these housekeeping tips to keep yourself and students safe:

- Place wet floor signs in wet areas that could pose a slipping hazard, and remove them as soon as the area is dry.
- Have a place for everything. Cleanup is simpler when everything has a designated area.
- Label boxes and supplies clearly.
- Put out only the amount of materials that is needed for the task to be completed.
- Make a clean classroom a shared responsibility.

Don'ts

When practicing good housekeeping, there are several things you should never do:

- Do not leave housekeeping responsibilities for the last few minutes of the day.
- Do not pile materials around fire extinguishers, sprinklers or emergency exits.
- Do not collect broken glass or other sharp materials in plastic bags.
- Do not omit gloves when collecting waste—gloves prevent cuts and splinters.

