ADVANCED SAFETY SECONDS

PREVENTING FALLING OBJECTS

Being struck by falling objects is a leading cause of construction fatalities. Even a small object can cause serious or fatal injuries if it falls from a higher level.

Ted and Sara's Story

Ted was working on a scaffold. He laid down his hand tool and it slipped off the edge of the scaffold and hit Sara on the shoulder. Sara suffered cuts and bruises.

- What caused this incident?
- How could this have been prevented?
- Have you ever been struck by a falling object on a job site, or do you know someone who has? If so, what happened?

Remember This

- Always secure all tools in elevated work areas if they are close to leading edges.
- Secure hand tools, such as with a tool lanyard or holster, to prevent them from falling to a lower level.
- Secure loads before lifting and moving them with lifts or cranes.
- Do not hoist or pass loads over people.
- Stack materials neatly to keep them from toppling over.
- Ask your employer to use a debris net or place toe boards on all scaffolding and open edges to prevent tools and materials from falling onto workers below.
- Always wear a hard hat and other appropriate personal protective equipment.

How Can We Stay Safe Today?

What will we do at the worksite to prevent injuries from falling objects?

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