

1.1 Zoey at Work

Follow-along kids' story

Duration: 30 minutes

Number of people who can take part: At least 2 participants and 1 adult reader; no maximum

Learning objective: children learn through a children's book about health and safety requirements and other expectations related to starting their first job while reflecting on similar themes in the book's text and in their daily lives

Materials needed: copy of Zoey at Work book

Before your event:

1. Print (or have the National Office do so on request) a copy of Zoey at Work. If you'd prefer, you can use a projector, screen, or tablet to read to participants while showing them the book's images.
2. Read Zoey at Work to familiarize yourself with its Action and Question prompts.

At your event:

There are a few ways you can run this activity at your event:

Version 1: Read Zoey at Work to your audience. At the end of each page, read the Action prompt for your audience to complete. After your audience does the action, read them the page's Question prompt and have a brief discussion about their responses.

Version 2: Give your audience the coloring book version of Zoey at Work. Your audience can colour as you read them the book and guide them through the prompts. If you'd like, you can ask confident readers to read some of the prompts to the group.

Facilitator Tips:

Before starting this activity, consider asking participants a few questions like:

- What do you know about the world of work?
- Why do you think it's important to work?
- What do you want to do for a job when you grow up?

The purpose of these questions is to provoke listeners' thoughts, not to have them give the 'right' answers.

You can also ask your audience reflective questions before beginning Zoey at Work. These questions will likely be answered by the activity and could include:

- Do you have to work when you grow up?
- Is it possible to like work?
- Why do people wear a uniform at work?

Zoey at Work



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Zoey is very happy! She just got her very first job. Zoey is going to work at the Button Factory! It's a dream for her, because she has always loved buttons. Red buttons, green buttons, twinkly buttons and shiny ones too.

To go to work, she puts on her best outfit adorned with silver buttons. She's ready to go!



Action: Pretend to put on your favorite outfit and walk to work.

Question: Why does Zoey want to work?

Do you find it important to go to work?

When she arrives at the Button Factory Zoey meets Jamal, her supervisor. He tells her: "Hello, Zoey. Welcome to the team!" Before Jamal even has time to continue, Zoey exclaims: "Thank you, thank you. I can't wait to get started! Can I go to work?" "Not yet," says Jamal! "Before you start working, you need to learn three important things in order to be a good worker."

Zoey is a little disappointed not to be able to go to work right away. So she asks Jamal: "How can I learn these three things?"

"Follow me," replies Jamal. "Let's go visit the factory and I'll show you everything you need to learn."



Action: Show me how excited you are to be working.

Question: Guess what the three things are that Zoey needs to learn in order to be a good worker?

Zoey and Jamal start by visiting the floor where the buttons are produced. There are several employees at work and they all have a different job. Some are responsible for painting colour on the buttons, others are making the holes, and some are adding a coat of varnish to make the buttons shine. The employees are focused and do their jobs very well.

Zoey is very excited. She rushes toward the painting brushes and tries to grab them from another employee. She exclaims:

"Can I paint the buttons too, please, please, please?"



Action: Show me how you paint a button.

Question: Is Zoey ready to start painting the buttons?

"Not so fast," yells Jamal. He explains to Zoey that in order to start working, she has to learn the rules. "The rules?" Zoey asks. Of course, all workplaces have rules and regulations. For example, at the button factory, everyone has to wear a uniform. Jamal also shows Zoey the schedule posted on the bulletin board. Zoey will need to write down her work schedule and arrive on time. Ultimately, Zoey should treat other employees with respect.

Zoey feels ashamed. She apologizes to her colleague and returns the brushes.

"Very well," said Jamal. "Take this uniform and go change. You still have two important things to learn."



Action: Pretend to put on your uniform and write your schedule in your planner.

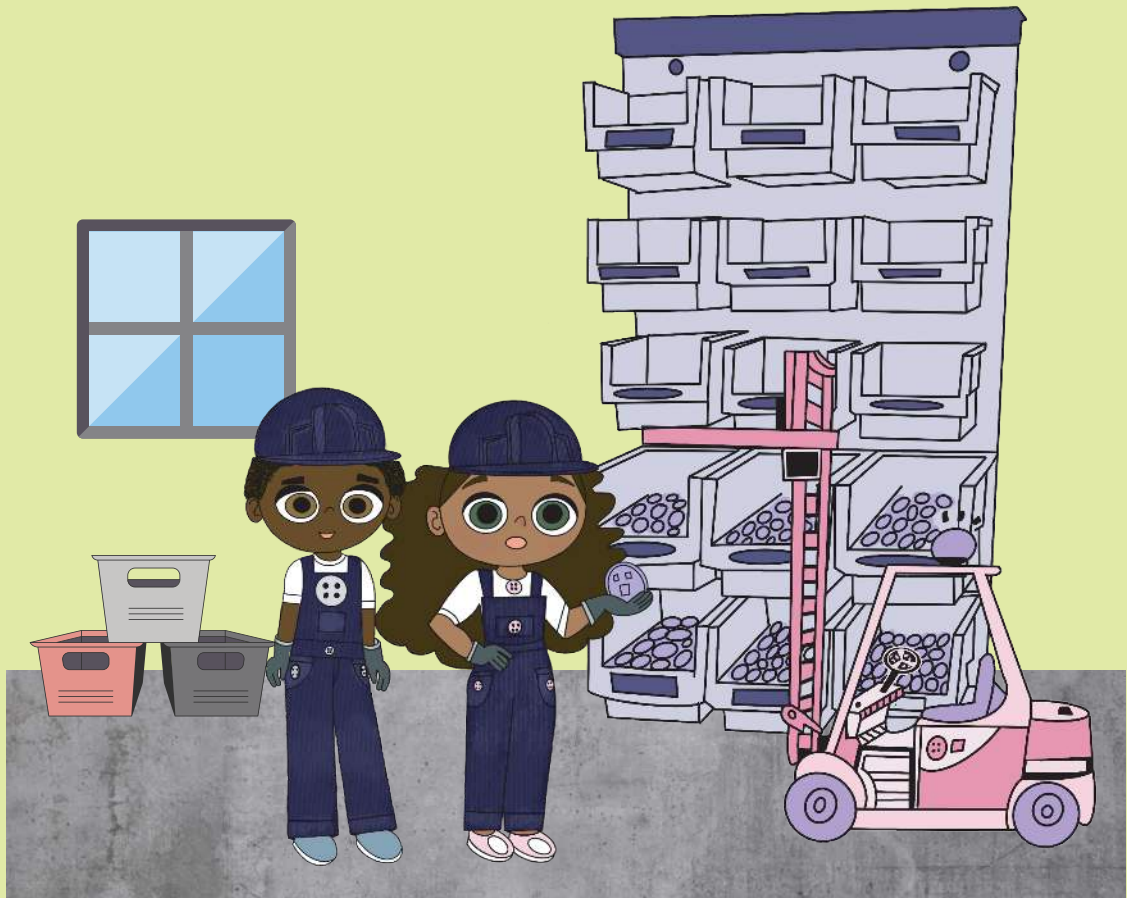
Question: What are some rules you should follow at school and at home?

Zoey and Jamal head to the factory warehouse. In the warehouse, Zoey sees shelves of boxes full of buttons. She's in paradise.

Zoey asks Jamal: "How do we get the boxes at the very top of the shelf?"

"Very good question," replies Jamal. "We use a forklift truck like this one."

Jamal points to a big machine behind Zoey. Immediately, she rushes to the forklift and sits in the driver's seat.



Action: Show me how to drive a forklift.

Question: Is Zoey ready to drive the forklift?

"Not so fast," Jamal shouts. He explains to Zoey that in order to start working, she has to learn about safety. "Safety?" Zoey asks.

"Of course," says Jamal. "In all workplaces, it is the responsibility of managers and employees to ensure that everyone is safe. For example, you need some training to be able to drive the forklift. In addition, when working in the warehouse, you will need to wear a helmet and goggles."

Zoey gets out of the driver's seat of the forklift. She is disappointed, but she understands. "Can I go to work now?" Zoey asks.

"Almost," Jamal replies. There is still another place you need to visit."



Action: Put on your helmet and goggles.

Question: Do you wear protective clothing in your life?

Zoey and Jamal go to the employees' rest room. In the break room, there is an employee taking his lunch break and another listening to music. Zoey is confused.

"Jamal, why are we here? I don't want to take a break, I want to work!"

Zoey begins to get impatient.

An employee named Myriam approaches Zoey.

"Hello," she says. "I see you are very excited to start working."

"Indeed," replies Zoey, "I always dreamt of working at the button factory."

"That's good," says Myriam, "but don't forget your well-being!"



Action: We are in the break room so show me your rest position!

Question: What is well-being?

"Well-being," Zoey asks. "Is that important? "

"It's very important! If you don't take care of yourself, sooner or later you'll be miserable, even doing your dream job," says Miriam.

"It is quite true," adds Jamal. "Breaks during the work day, taking time off when you're not feeling well, and working reasonable hours are all things that keep you well. "

"So if I take breaks and take care of my health, I'll be a better employee?" Zoey asks.

"Exactly," exclaims Jamal.



Action: Stretch and check your temperature to make sure you're ready to work.

Question: What do you like to do on your breaks?

Zoey and Jamal return to the production floor. Jamal asks:

"So, Zoey, do you remember the three things we've learned today?"

Zoey replies: "It is important to follow the rules, work safely and we must not neglect our well-being."

"Very good," says Jamal. "You can start working."

After a good day's work, Jamal gives Zoey her very first paycheck.

Zoey can't wait to come back to work tomorrow.



Action: Pretend to count your money.

Question: Do you think Zoey is going to enjoy her job at the Button Factory? Is it important for you to do something that you love?

