



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 jobsite, 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.

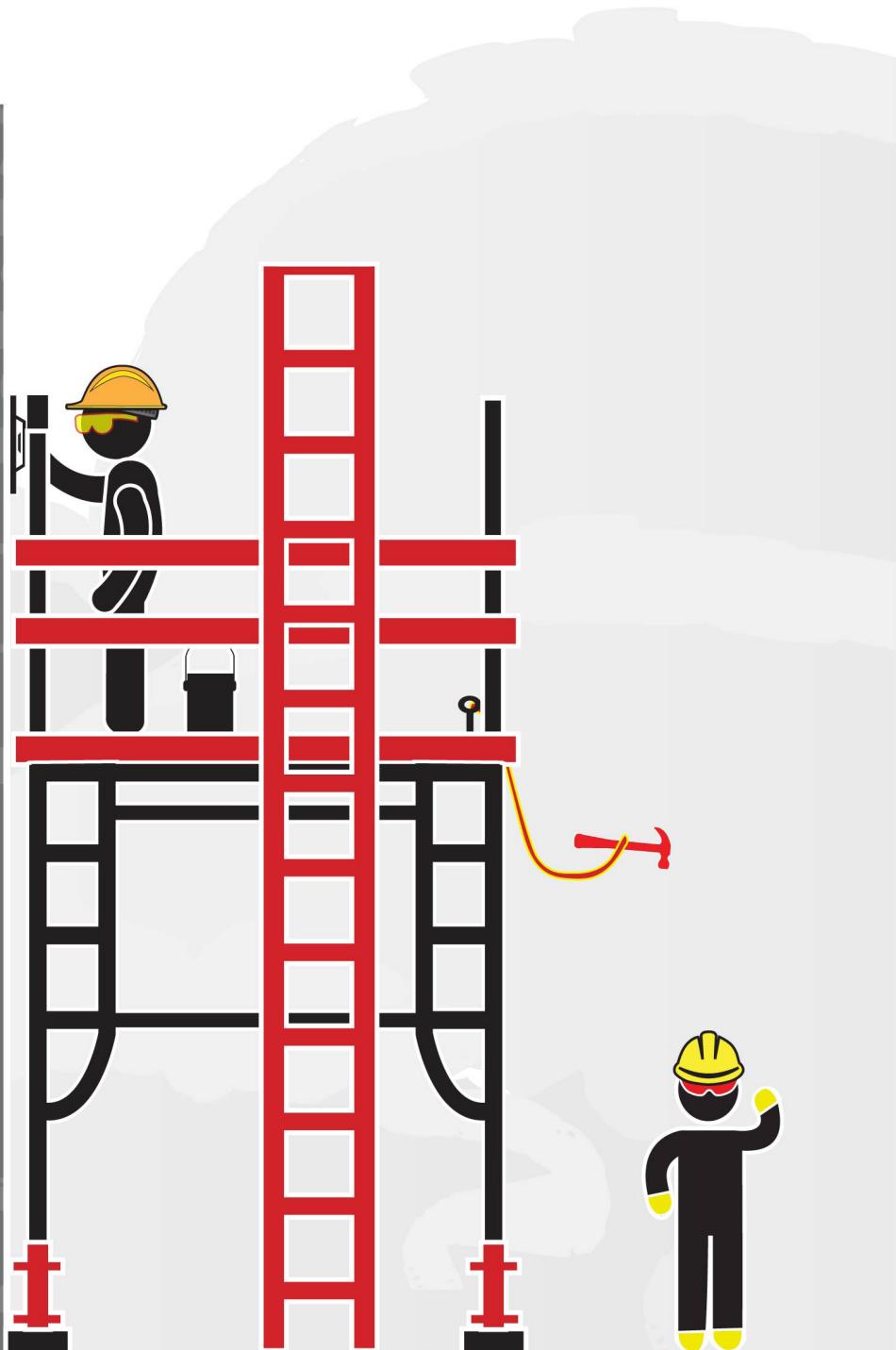
How can we stay safe today?

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

OSHA Standard: 1926.501(c)



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- Secure hand tools with a tool lanyard or holster to prevent them from falling.
- Always** wear a hard hat.

**GET
INFORMATION**

CDC/NIOSH INFO: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636) | TTY: 1-800-232-6348 | cdc.gov/info | cdc.gov/niosh

CPWR: Contact 301-578-8500 | cpwr-r2p@cpwr.com | www.cpwr.com/toolbox-talks

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