

Story #2: American Dreams

Lesson plan

	This is a new method that we're using, where forest workers tell their own stories.
Story Description	<p>The story that you are about to watch is the story of a forest worker who was constantly abused and humiliated by his supervisors. One day after working 13-14 hours for 25 consecutive days in California, his friend cut down a pine tree that fell on his head and broke his arm in three places. He did not receive medical attention in California and had to return to Oregon to receive it there.</p> <p>Key points that are illustrated in this story:</p> <p><u>Unsafe conditions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This work is inherently dangerous but many injuries can be avoided and a better emergency plan can be established. ● Workers should not work so close to each other when felling trees ● Communication on the job is critical <p><u>Dealing with the injury afterwards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Many foremen, companies, and workers react poorly to an emergency. ● Proper medical attention wasn't provided at the worksite, or soon enough. <p><u>Accidents affecting families:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The worker's family was negatively affected and had to help him find the medical attention he needed. ● The worker's conclusions: "This nightmare has not come to an end. I continue to help my family but it has not been the same since all this has happened to me. But I do not give up. I continue fighting."
Objectives	<p>After viewing or discussing this digital story, the workers will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe ways to prevent being hit by falling trees. 2. Describe what an employer should provide if a worker is injured. 3. Describe how an injury can impact the entire family.
Time	15 min – 30 min depending on location or conversation
Audience	<p>SHORT: Small group of workers (1-4) on the street or in public places.</p> <p>LONGER: Group of workers (+4) with an established appointment.</p>
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● iPad/tablet ● Speakers/ Headphones and appropriate adapter ● Cards with talking points (optional)

Steps/Notes

1. Show the story first. Before proceeding, give the participants a moment to take in the content.
2. Ask the participants to share how the story makes them feel and describe the parts of the story that they relate to.
3. Use the questions and discussion points below to guide a conversation about the story. If you have more time, you can cover the “Additional Points” in the last column.

Questions	Discussion Points	Additional Points (If you have more time)
What do you think of the story?	<p>How did it make you feel? Have you experienced anything like what he experienced?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope for better life in U.S.? • Being injured? • Being treated unfairly at work? 	
What got your attention in this story?	<p>What did you notice? What did the worker talk about?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working for days on end, many hours • He didn't get the medical care he needed; his wife had to help. • An injury can impact the entire family 	
Can you describe the impact this injury had on his family?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress, fear and feeling like a burden on his family • Distance and time away from the family • Less income 	
How do you think his injury could have been prevented?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working at least two tree lengths apart while felling trees. • Keeping track of where your co-workers are. • Improving communication on the job • Paying attention to his surroundings by looking up, down and to the sides • Having an emergency plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We know workers who have decided among themselves to work at the correct distance, and the foreman did not try to stop them”.
What are the contractor's responsibilities? (Regarding working conditions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Personal Protective Equipment. • Provide a safe work environment. • Provide training and information about workplace hazards in a language that workers understand. • Have an emergency plan and first aid kit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</u> must be in good condition and the contractor should make sure it is used. • Encourage communication with coworkers. • <u>Breaks</u>: Oregon law says workers have

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide workers compensation. This covers medical expenses for work-related injuries and payment if you lose wages for more than 3 days. • Provide safe transportation. • Provide clean water and provide breaks. 	<p>the right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paid breaks (10 minutes) for every 4 hours worked. ○ Lunch: 30 minutes (without pay)
<p>What steps should be taken when an injury occurs on the job?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The worker should notify the supervisor immediately. • The contractor should take the injured worker to the closest hospital if they need more than first aid. • The worker should receive appropriate medical attention. • The injured worker should receive workers' compensation. • The injured worker should be given enough time to recover. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When someone gets injured, the contractor must provide safe transportation to medical facilities. • To receive workers compensation, the injured worker must fill out Form-801 and inform the doctor that it is a work-related injury.
<p>What are other protections that workers have?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to take action to improve working conditions • Right to report defective equipment and tools • Right to report harassment • Protection from retaliation • Right to ask for an OSHA inspection and speak to the inspector in private 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak up if you think a task or idea is dangerous. • If you make a complaint to OSHA, you have to say you want to be anonymous. • There are protections against retaliation. • The contractor is not allowed to fire you for exercising your rights, but if it happens, seek help from legal aid organizations. • Workers can file a complaint with the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI)
<p>What rights do you have if you've been harassed while working?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The right to report the problems (although this is difficult to prove) • Take action to improve safety conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Such as harassment or pressure to work faster, longer, harder. 	

Additional Questions if time allows (30-60 minutes)

Closure

As previously mentioned, this is a new method that we are using and we would like to ask you some questions about the method.

If you have a short amount of time (10-30 min). Make sure to discuss the following Questions:

1. What did you like about the video?

2. Is there something you didn't like about the video? Why?

3. What did you like or dislike during the rest of the workshop and discussion?

4. Did you learn something that was new to you? What did you learn?



STORY #2

“AMERICAN DREAMS”

12/2017

Story Objectives

- Describe ways to prevent being hit by falling trees
- Describe what your employer should provide if you are injured
- Describe how an injury can impact the **entire family**

12/2017

- This is a new method that we're using, where forest workers tell their own stories.
- This story that you are about to watch is the story of a forest worker who was constantly abused and humiliated by his supervisors. One day after working 13-14 hours for 25 consecutive days in California, his friend cut a pine tree that fell on his head and broke his arm in three places. He did not receive medical attention in California and had to return to Oregon to receive it there.
- Let's watch the story....

12/2017



**WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE
STORY?**

Listen to their opinions



12/2017



**WHAT GOT YOUR ATTENTION IN
THIS STORY?**

Listen to their opinions



12/2017

CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE IMPACT THIS INJURY HAD ON HIS FAMILY ?



**Stress, Fear,
Feeling a burden
for his family**



**Spent time away
from his family**



Less income

12/2017

HOW DO YOU THINK HIS INJURY COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED?

Work at least 2 tree
lengths apart



Have an
emergency
plan



Improve
communication
on the job



- Look up
- Look down
- Look to the sides
- Watch out for co-workers



12/2017


WHAT ARE THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES?

(REGARDING WORKING CONDITIONS)



 **Provide Personal Protective equipment**

 **Safe work environment**

 **Provide training and information about workplace hazards**

- In a language that workers understand

 **Have an emergency plan and first aid kit.**



 **Provide Workers Compensation**

- Medical expenses
- Possible pay for some lost wages

 **Provide safe transportation**



 **Provide clean water and provide breaks**

- Fatigue and dehydration increase likelihood of accidents

12/2017

WHAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN AN INJURY OCCURS ON THE JOB?

1

The worker should notify the supervisor immediately

- To evaluate the situation

2

The contractor should take the injured worker to the closest hospital

- Depending on the severity

3

The worker should receive appropriate medical attention



4

The injured worker should receive workers' compensation.

- Complete form 801

5

The injured worker should be given enough time to recover.

- Change daily tasks



12/2017

WHAT ARE OTHER PROTECTIONS THAT WORKERS HAVE?

RIGHT TO....

Take action to improve working conditions.

- Talk with each other if something feels unsafe.

Right to report defective equipment and tools



- Without fear of retaliation

Right to report harassment

- Hard to prove



Ask for an OSHA inspection and speak to the inspector in private

- Can ask to be anonymous



Protection against retaliation

- Cannot be fired for exercising their rights or asking for breaks
- If they get fired, workers can file a complaint with BOLI

12/2017

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4. Did you learn something that was new to you? What did you learn?

12/2017