

#10651 CLOTHING CARE FOR LOOKING GOOD!

LEARNING ZONE EXPRESS, 2001
GRADE LEVEL: 5-10
20 MINUTES
2 INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS INCLUDED



DESCRIPTION

As two junior-high students sort through donated clothes, they share their laundry knowledge with each other. Looks at the steps in doing laundry as they check labels for clothing-care instructions; sort by color, texture, and soiling; pretreat stains; wash with the correct amount of detergent; and dry and fold the clothes. Includes helpful tips about dry-cleaning costs and stain removal.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Life Work

- Standard: Manages money effectively.
 - ♦ Benchmark: Uses sound buying principles (e.g., comparing costs and benefits, making informed choices) for purchasing goods and services.

Subject Area: Mathematics

- Standard: Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of measurement.
 - ♦ Benchmark: Solves real-world problems involving three-dimensional measures (e.g., volume, surface area).

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To be able to identify and understand the information care labels.
2. To know how to remove stains from clothing.
3. To be able to measure accurately (volume).
4. To know which temperatures to use when washing and drying select clothes.

VOCABULARY

1. ammonia
2. bleach
3. dry-cleaning
4. enzyme
5. fabric softener
6. front-loading washing machine

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7. hand washing detergent | 11. pretreat |
| 8. man-made fibers | 12. top-loading washing machine |
| 9. natural fibers | 13. wind-resistant |
| 10. permanent care label | |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Experiment with the following before trying in class: Have students bring in various types of stain-inducing products (e.g., mustard, tea, blueberries, etc.). Have available different types of fabrics. Stain the fabrics. Get the stains out.
2. Go over the steps to operating the washing machine:
 - a. Select the wash water temperature.
 - (1) Hot water sets stains, shrinks clothes, fades colors, and costs more.
 - (2) Warm water causes little damage to clothing.
 - (3) Cold water protects fabrics, prevents shrinkage and fading, allows stains to be removed easily, works best with detergents, and costs less.
 - b. Select the rinse water temperature.
 - (1) Warm water reactivates the detergent and causes the clothing not to rinse thoroughly.
 - (2) Cold water allows the rinse cycle to work the best.
 - c. Select the water level and agitation cycle.
 - (1) Use the regular setting for medium and heavy weight fabrics.
 - (2) Use the delicate setting for lightweight fabrics or delicate items.
 - d. Select laundry products.
 - (1) Chlorine (liquid) bleach is mainly used on white cotton fabrics.
 - (2) Powdered bleach can be used safely on other fabrics.
 - (3) Chlorine (liquid) bleach should be added to the wash water and mixed thoroughly before the clothes are in the washer. The bleach should not be poured directly on the clothing.
 - (4) Always use the amount of detergent recommended on the box or less—too much detergent is difficult to rinse out and makes the clothing sticky and dull in color.
 - (5) Don't use extra detergent for extra-dirty clothes—wash them twice instead.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What are the five steps of clothing care?
2. What are two important reasons for reading the care label sewn into clothing?
3. What are the three things to consider when sorting clothing?
4. What can cause stains to become permanent?

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

5. What should be considered when adding detergent to a load of clothes in the washer?
6. What are three important things to consider when drying clothes?
7. Why should a stain try to be removed from a garment immediately?
8. Why is hot water not recommended for removing most stains?
9. What does it mean to "treat" a stain? How do you pretreat a stain?
10. When is it recommended to take stained clothing to the dry cleaners?
11. What factors should be considered when sorting clothes for the wash? Of what importance is the permanent care label when sorting?
12. What helps the iron get wrinkles out of clothes?

Applications and Activities

1. Hand out the "Drying Method Test." (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.)
2. Discuss if anyone has ever incorrectly washed or dried something and it shrunk, bled, or the stain didn't come out. Discuss what might have been a better option.
3. Hand out the "Care Label Worksheet." (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS

- DRYING METHOD TEST
- CARE LABEL WORKSHEET

RELATED RESOURCES

Captioned Media Program

- [*Dress: Part II The Basic Wardrobe #9158*](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **BAREFOOT LASS'S STAIN REMOVAL PAGE**

http://members.tripod.com/~Barefoot_Lass/index-2.html

Provides tips on how to remove stains, even from carpet.

- **HOMEMADE LAUNDRY DETERGENT**

<http://www.thefrugalshopper.com/articles/detergent.shtml>

Gives recipes on how to make your own detergents.

- **LAUNDRY TIPS**

http://meme.essortment.com/laundrytips_rsgt.htm

Offers guidelines on how to remove stains, and provides links to other laundry-related sites.

- **CARING FOR YOUR CLOTHES**

<http://mensfashion.about.com/od/caringforyourclothes/>

Gives links to clothing-care sites, including how to clean suede shoes and what fabric symbols seen on care labels mean.

- **FIBER CHARACTERISTICS**

<http://www.fabriclink.com/RF-ED-Characteristics.html>

Provides a list of different fibers, what they are commonly used for, their characteristics, and whether it's a man-made or natural fiber.

- **STAIN INDEX**

<http://www.fabriclink.com/holidaystain.html>

Lists stains and general directions for their removal.



DRYING METHOD TEST

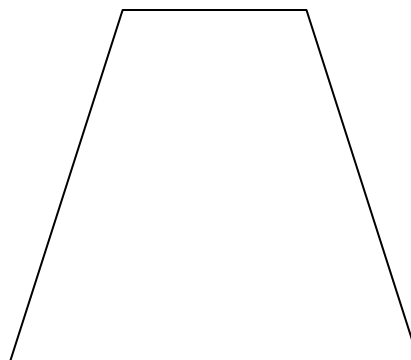
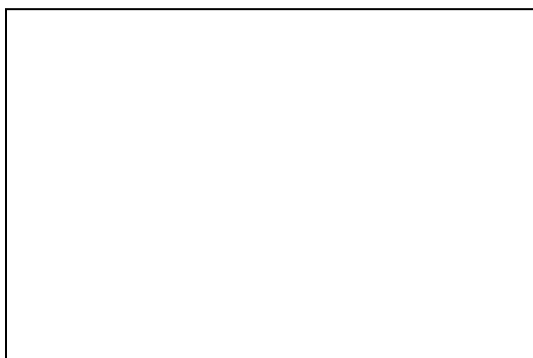
Directions: Match the type of clothing with the appropriate drying method.

- _____ Cotton T-Shirts
- _____ Wool Sweater
- _____ Sheets & Towels
- _____ Knit Shirts
- _____ Silk Jacket
- _____ Rayon Pants

- a. Tumble dry on the low/medium heat cycle (sometimes called "wash and wear").
- b. Permanent press cycle.
- c. Lay flat to dry.
- d. High heat; sturdy setting.
- e. Line dry or if label displays "dry clean only," take to dry cleaners.
- f. Delicate or air fluff.

CARE LABEL WORKSHEET

1. Can you look at a garment or a piece of fabric and tell what it is made of and how to care for it? If your answer is "no," where can you look to tell what type of fabric something is made out of and how to care for it?
2. What information is required by law on all care labels?
3. Where can most care labels be found on your clothing?
 - a. In skirts and dresses?
 - b. In jackets?
 - c. In jeans and pants?
4. Look on two garments of yours and someone else's and fill in the typical care label information below (or if you so desire, considering all information that is required on care labels, design your own):



5. Match the following terms with the correct definitions:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| _____ wash separately | a. Wash with regular cycle of washer in warm water. |
| _____ machine wash | b. Must be dried with circular motion on low setting. |
| _____ tumble dry, low | c. Must hang on line to dry. |
| _____ line dry | d. No bleach of any kind should be used. |
| _____ dry flat | e. Under no circumstances should you wash this garment. |
| _____ no bleach | f. Use a low iron setting. |
| _____ dry clean only | g. Lay out on a flat surface to dry. |
| _____ cool iron | h. Wash by itself, do not wash with other clothes. |