

 **BUILDING BLOCKS STUDENT WORKSHEET**

Exploring the minimum wage

The federal minimum wage applies to many people, but it does have exceptions.

Many of these exceptions and other important information are in the “Employee Rights Under the Fair Labor Standards Act” poster, which employers are required to display where employees can readily see it. Reviewing this poster can help you understand federal minimum wage laws and other laws affecting workers.

Instructions

- 1 Read the “Employee Rights Under the Fair Labor Standards Act” poster at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/posters/flsa>.
- 2 As you read the poster, answer the reading comprehension questions.
- 3 After you read the poster, answer the reflection question.
- 4 Answer the “Digging deeper” questions by going to two U.S. Department of Labor web resources. Visit <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/minimum-wage/state> to find your state’s minimum wage laws and <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/youthrules/young-workers> to find information on rules that affect how much young people are paid.

Reading comprehension questions

1. Who is the author of this poster? (It doesn’t have to be a person; it can be an agency.)



2. Write a one-sentence summary for each poster section.

Poster section	Summary sentence
Overtime pay	
Child labor	
Tip credit	
Additional information	

Reflection question

3. What did you learn from this poster about your ability to work and earn money?

Digging deeper

4. Visit <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/minimum-wage/state> and explore your state's minimum wage laws.

- What is your state's current minimum wage? Is it higher or lower than the federal minimum wage?

5. Visit <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/youthrules/young-workers> and explore the rules for young people in different age groups.

- If you're younger than 20, your employer can pay you less than the federal minimum wage. How much can they pay you? How long can your employer pay you that amount?