

# Building Laundry Skills

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# **UNIT: "LAUNDRY ESSENTIALS"**

**OUTCOME**: Knowing and using proper clothing care practices results in positive

life/resource management and money saved.

**GOAL:** Students increase life management skills and save money by

properly caring for my clothing and learning care labeling

requirements for textile products.

## **Objectives:**

**1. I will** identify and practice appropriate clothing care practices. (National Standards for Family and Consumer Sciences Education [NSFACSE]: 2.1.4, 16.2.5)

**2. I will** read and write care labels using words or symbols.

(<u>NSFACSE</u>: 2.3.1, 16.2.3)

**I will** understand textile legislation and labeling in a global economy. (NSFACSE: 2.3.1, 16.2.3)

#### **Materials Needed:**

**Bulletin Board:** Use sections of the "Laundry Essentials" brochure,

the care symbol chart, and examples of care labels.

Student Supplies: "Laundry Essentials" Brochure

Worksheets: "Laundry Essentials"

"Building Laundry Skills"

"Decoding Care Symbols"

"Consumer Guide to Care Symbols" Chart

**Teacher Resources:** Textiles and clothing textbooks

National Standards for Family and Consumer Sciences Education

Websites: www.ftc.gov

www.TextileAffairs.com

## **National Standards for Family and Consumer Sciences Education:**

- **2.1.4** Implement decisions about purchasing, creating, and maintaining clothing.
- **2.3.1** Examine state and federal policies and laws providing consumer protection.
- **16.2.3** Review textile legislation, standards, and labeling in the global economy.
- **16.2.5** Select appropriate procedures for care of textile products.

## **Basic Concepts:**

The U. S. requires a permanent care label on most apparel that provides instructions for refurbishing the product and warnings for any part of the instructions that may have a harmful effect.

A permanent care label is one that remains legible and attached to a textile product throughout its useful life.

Most nations have established a voluntary or required care labeling system that uses symbols instead of words.

Since January 1, 1999, manufacturers and importers may report care instructions on care labels using words in English, ASTM care symbols, or both. Some instructions, such as dryclean may be reported as a symbol and a drycleaning warning "low moisture" may be reported in words.

Care symbols convey care instructions in a simple, space-saving, and easily understood format.

Care labeling helps consumers select textile products on the basis of the care method required and reduces loss and complaints resulting from inappropriate cleaning procedures.

Care labeling is based on five basic refurbishing operations: washing, bleaching, drying, ironing and drycleaning.

## **Learning Activities:**

- 1. "Laundry Essentials" (40-50 minutes)
- 2. "Building Laundry Skills" (homework)
- 3. "Decoding Care Symbols" (20-30 minutes)

# LESSON 1: "LAUNDRY ESSENTIALS" (40-50 minutes) (2.1.4, 16.2.5)

### 1. Write the assignment on the board:

- 1. Identify appropriate clothing care practices.
- 2. **Introduce the learning activity.** Ask the students if they buy their own clothes. After responses, ask the students if they read the labels when making a buying decision. Continue the discussion by asking what they look for when buying their clothes and how important it is to them whether the apparel needs to be drycleaned or washed. Tell the students that the <u>purpose of today's learning opportunity</u> is to understand general principles of caring for textile products.
- 3. **Pass out the "Laundry Essentials" brochure.** Tell the students that the brochure is a complete guide to caring for clothes that will be laundered.
- 4. **Explain that clothes should be taken to the drycleaner** if the words on the care label say "dryclean" there is a "circle" care symbol present. Be sure to point out any stains or spots to the drycleaner.
- 5. **Tell the students** that the Textile Industry Affairs Division of the Clorox Company, decided to provide this laundering brochure to students at no cost to the school. Tell the students that the informational content of the brochure contains no advertising. The brochure does provide the name and identifier of the company that produced it in case they want more information. The brochure is comprehensive including pretreating, washing, bleaching, drying, ironing, stain removal, and care symbol information. (Note: you may order enough brochures to give one to each of your students.)
- 6. **When the students have completed their work, ask** the students if they do their laundry. Which steps in clothes care are new to them? Do they care for their clothes in different ways than recommended in the brochure? What are the benefits of each method?
- 7. **Give the students the homework assignment,** "Building Laundry Skills." Explain that they need to help with the laundry and then have a parent/guardian sign that they completed the assignment. Point out that all the steps need not be done. If they don't iron clothes, simply write that down. Set a due date and have them write it down on the paper.

#### Assessment:

1. High quality completion of worksheet and homework.

# LESSON 2: "DECODING CARE SYMBOLS" (20-30 minutes) (2.3.1, 16.2.3)

- 1. **Write the assignment on the board:**Skill in "Decoding Care Symbols" prepares you to be a global consumer.
- 2. **Give each student a care label that includes symbols.** Ask the students which of the care symbols seems easy to decode. Have students predict some instructions for various care symbols. If you do not have care labels available, draw some care symbols on the board: machine wash, permanent press, warm; only non-chlorine bleach when needed; tumble dry, low; iron, medium.
- 3. **Tell the students to use the "Laundry Essentials"** and the ASTM "Consumer Guide to Care Symbols" to decode and encode the care instructions on the worksheet. Explain that they are to look for patterns in the symbol system as they do their work.
- 4. **When done, explain that they will** <u>practice the intelligent behavior</u> of searching for patterns. Tell them that complex systems usually have simple patterns within the system. To understand this system, ask the students to examine the chart to locate any patterns. Review each process beginning with washing. What is the basic symbol? How are the permanent press and gentle cycle represented? Are the single-bar and double-bar symbols used anywhere else on the chart? Compare the temperature symbols through the washing, drying, and ironing processes. Continue asking the students to identify patterns in the symbol system. Have them summarize those found: (1) temperature/heat settings: hot/high three dots, warm/medium two dots, cold/low one dot; (2) cycle settings: normal cycle no bar, permanent press cycle one bar, gentle or delicate cycle two bars; (3) warning: "X" do not; (4) a milder process: add two diagonal bars for non-chlorine bleach or shade dry; and, (5) the order of the symbols follow consumer practice: washing, bleaching, drying, ironing, and drycleaning.
- 5. You may test their comprehension with a quick review quiz:
  - a. Name the care instruction that is represented by the washtub, the triangle, the square, the iron, and the circle.
  - b. What symbol represents hot, warm, cold, very hot, normal action, permanent press action, gentle action, and "do not?"
  - c. What symbol represents only non-chlorine bleach when needed?
- 6. **Summarize by pointing out that** U. S. apparel and textile manufacturers and importers are required to provide certain information to consumers. This required information helps consumers select textiles on the basis of fiber content, care requirements (apparel only), country of manufacture and the name of the manufacturer. Voluntary information can include the brand name, a trademark, the fabric construction, a fabric finish, the size of the item, and any guarantees.

#### Assessment:

1. High quality completion of the "Decoding Care Symbols" worksheet and the quiz.

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# **LAUNDRY ESSENTIALS**

**Objective**: I will identify appropriate clothing care practices.

**Directions:** Read "Laundry Essentials." Then complete this worksheet by writing the information in phrases or sentences.

# **SORTING OUT**

When

Sort your laundry loads according to:

COLOR:	
<b>/</b>	
<b>/</b>	
<b>~</b>	
FABRIC AND CONSTRUCTION:	
<b>/</b>	
<b>/</b>	
DEGREE OF SOIL:	
<b>/</b>	
<i>'</i>	
OTHER CHECKS:	
<b>/</b>	
<b>/</b>	
<i>'</i>	
<b>/</b>	
<b>/</b>	
<b>/</b>	
SHING	
do vou need extra detergent?	- 41

-	f you have hard water, what type of detergent works best?
1	When should detergents be added?
I	Describe the two types of bleach. Which one is a disinfectant that kills germs
-	
	Describe the two ways bleach can be safely added to the washer.
	2
_	When do you add the clothes to the washer?  n general, how much water should be used for a load of wash?
1	What does overdrying do to clothes?
]	
2	2
3	3
1	What is the best way to treat unknown stains?

UNIT: LAUNDRY ESSENTIALS By J. Pullen FACS Standards: 2.1.4, 16.2.5

#### **NAME**

Date Due: Parent Signature

## **BUILDING LAUNDRY SKILLS**

#### **Dear Parent or Guardian,**

We are asking your son/daughter to work with you to do the family laundry one time. Here is the checklist of steps we want him/her to consider. Please check off the skills practiced and sign the paper. Thank you very much.

**Objective:** I will practice appropriate clothing care practices.

1.	SC	DRTING THE LAUNDRY DONE
	A	I sorted the laundry by color.
	B.	I sorted the laundry by fabric and construction.
	C.	I sorted the laundry by degree of soil.
	D.	I avoided risk of damage to items by being sure to:
		<ul> <li>Empty pockets</li> <li>Shake out loose dirt from cuffs</li> <li>Close zippers, hooks, and eyes, etc</li> <li>Mend rips or tears before laundering</li> <li>Tie strings and sashes loosely to avoid tangling</li> <li>Remove belts, pins or trims that are not washable</li> </ul>
2.	W	ASHING AND BLEACHING
	A	I added the detergent as the washer filled.
	B.	I used the proper amount of detergent.
	C.	<u>I adjusted the cold water (if used) to 65-85°F</u> (to activate detergent).
	D.	I did not overload the washer with clothes, etc.
	E.	I added the clothes after agitation began.
	F.	<ol> <li>When using bleach, I added the proper amount at the correct time:</li> <li>Regular liquid bleach: DILUTED 5 minutes into wash cycle or used the bleach dispenser.</li> <li>Color-Safe bleach: measured amount added with detergent.</li> </ol>
3.	DI	RYING AND IRONING
	A.	I shook out the clothes before putting them in dryer or on rack/line .
	B.	I checked the clothes to be sure the stains were removed
	C.	I cleaned out the lint filter.
	D.	I did not overload the dryer.
	E.	I did not overdry the clothes (causes shrinking and wrinkling)
	F.	I placed clothes on hangers and smoothed them as needed

G. I ironed clothes as needed, using the recommended heat setting. . . \_\_

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Date Due:

# **DECODING CARE SYMBOLS**

**Objectives**: I will read and write care labels using words and symbols.

I will understand textile legislation and labeling in the global economy.

Directions: Care instructions are reported on apparel and home furnishings in words and in symbols. To learn what these symbols mean, try decoding these care labels. Use the ASTM OR CLOROX CARE SYMBOL CHART.

1.

















2.









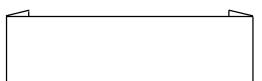






Draw a care label in symbols for:

MACHINE WASH WARM, ONLY
NON-CHLORINE BLEACH WHEN NEEDED,
TUMBLE DRY MEDIUM, WARM IRON IF
NEEDED



UNIT: LAUNDRY ESSENTIAL
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FACS Standards: 2.3.1 16.2.3

Warm or Medium

Coll, Cold or Low = \_\_\_\_\_

NAME			

Date Due:

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<u>-</u>	Э	`	
5.	(A)		
A	)		
•••	<u> </u>		
Drav	v a care label in symbols for:		
6.	MACHINE WASH WARM, PERMANENT PRESS CYCLE, ONLY NON-CHLORINE BLEACH WHEN NEEDED, TUMBLE DRY LOW, IRON LOW IF NEEDED		
Drav	v a care label in symbols for:		
<b>7.</b>	DRYCLEAN, PETROLEUM SOLVENT ONLY, LOW IRON IF NEEDED		
Wha	t is the simple pattern used for the ASTM o	care symbol system?	,
8.		CHINE CYCLE:	= No Underline

**Normal Cycle** 

**Permanent Press Cycle** 

Gentle or Delicate Cycle = \_\_\_\_\_

Date

#### **ASTM GUIDE TO CARE SYMBOLS** Warning symbols for **Machine** laundering wash <u>cycles</u> hand normal permanent delicate / & wash press gentle Water **temperatures** cool/cold very hot hot warm (maximum) (140F) (120F)(105F)(65-85F) Wash do not bleach symbol (s) 50 40 30 60 dots & °C. • do not dry (used with do not wash) any bleach only non-chlorine when needed bleach when needed **Bleach** do not iron **Additional** instructions **Tumble dry** (in symbols cycles or words) line dry / hang to dry normal permanent delicate / & press gentle do not wring Dry **Tumble dry** drip dry heat setting do not high medium low no heat/ any tumble dry heat air dry flat in the shade Iron when (added to line needed--dry dry, drip dry, or or steam dry flat) maximum 110°C 200°C 150°C temperature (390F)(300F)(230F)medium low high Iron no steam (added to iron) **Dryclean - normal cycle Dryclean - modified cycle** petroleum do not perchlorethylene any **Dryclean** dryclean solvent solvent petroleum solvent only

Note: As a minimum, laundering instructions include, in order, four symbols: washing, bleaching, drying, and ironing; and, drycleaning instructions include one symbol. Additional symbols or words may be used to clarify the instructions. Actual water temperatures obtained in the home are dependent upon the washing machine settings (hot, warm, cold), regional water supply temperatures, water heater settings, and regulations governing these conditions.