Chapter 7

Data File 7-1 Understanding Child Labor Laws

**Directions:** Complete the following activity to learn about child labor laws.

Earning money of your own—this can sound like a great idea to many teens. Saving for a special purchase, putting away money for college, buying holiday gifts, or simply having some spending money—all can offer incentives to get that first job. While some teens can manage a part-time job, working isn’t suitable for everyone, especially during the school year.

For teens who do take jobs, laws specify when and how long they can work. The federal government has certain laws, and individual states may have stricter rules. Use the link provided to learn the facts and answer the questions that follow.  
http://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/whd/flsa/cl/y14.asp

Activity Questions

1. According to the US Department of Labor, during what times and on what days may teens who are 14 and 15 work? What are the hour restrictions?

<<Place Answer Here>>

2. What are the work restrictions for teens who are ages 16 and older?

<<Place Answer Here>>

3. Why do you think the laws are different for students aged 14–15 compared to students aged 16?

<<Place Answer Here>>

4. Using the following link, find your state’s minimum wage rate. Note that some states have different rates from the federal ones. Click on your state. How does the rate compare to the federal rate? http://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/america.htm

<<Place Answer Here>>

5. What do you think are the pros and cons of teens having a part-time job during the school year?

<<Place Answer Here>>

6. Ask your instructor where to save your documents. This could be on the school’s network or a flash drive of your own. Name your Word document *FirstnameLastname*\_Activity7-1.docx (i.e., JohnSmith\_Activity7-1.docx).