







INSTRUCTOR GUIDE


LESSON 7: FIREARMS ACTION HANDLING

V. 2/2017

Basic Hunter Education 2014 Standards – Section 2

Objectives 11, 15, 16, & 17

<u>Instructor Notes</u> 	<p>This lesson introduces students to the knowledge and skills of safe firearm handling and proper loading and unloading practices. This lesson corresponds with Chapter 2 (pages 21-23) in the student manual. Teach this lesson as part of a round robin with a small group (4-8) of students.</p> <p>Teaching Methods Used In This Lesson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student hands-on activity
<u>Time Suggested</u> 	20 Minutes
<u>Materials Required</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Firearms action kit w/ dummy ammo• Table <div><p>Note: If possible, have multiple examples of firearms for your action type.</p></div>
<u>Station Set-up</u>  10 minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Discuss with your fellow instructors which action type will be taught by which instructor.2. Set up a table at your station and stage the ammunition and

	the firearm you are demonstrating with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
Vocabulary Builder 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Note: Do not read the vocabulary to the students. These are terms commonly used during this lesson, and the definitions are for instructor reference only.</p> </div> <p>Action – The part of the firearm that loads, fires, and ejects the cartridge or shot shell.</p> <p>Action release – A button mechanism on some firearms that must be pressed in order to open the action.</p> <p>Barrel selector – A mechanism on some multi-barrel break action firearms that allow you to select which barrel fires first.</p> <p>Barrel stamp – A stamp pressed into the side of the barrel of a firearm that typically states the manufacturer, the gauge or caliber, and the chamber size.</p> <p>Bolt – The part of the action that unloads the spent shell, loads the next shell, and includes the firing pin.</p> <p>Cartridge – A complete round of ammunition which includes primer, powder, case, and the bullet. Cartridges can be either rimfire or centerfire.</p> <p>Hammer – The part on some firearms that strikes the firing pin when the trigger is pulled, causing the firearm to fire.</p> <p>Head stamp – A stamp pressed into the head of a shotgun shell or centerfire rifle cartridge that states the gauge or caliber of the ammunition.</p>

Loading port – The part of the action where the ammunition is loaded into the firearm.




Magazine – The part of a repeating firearm which holds ammunition until it is ready to be fed into the chamber.


Muzzle – The opening at the end of the barrel, from which bullets, slugs, or shot is expelled.


Safety – A mechanism that prevents the trigger from moving, or the firing pin from operating, in order to stop the firearm from being unintentionally fired.

Shot shell – A complete round of shotgun ammunition which includes primer, powder, case, wad, and shot.

LESSON PLAN

<p><u>PART A:</u></p> <p><u>Focus Activity</u></p>  <p>1 minute</p>	<p>The purpose of the focus activity is to get everyone focused on the lesson. Ask: “Can anyone tell me what type of action this firearm is?”</p>
<p><u>PART B:</u></p> <p><u>Objectives</u></p>  <p>1 minute</p>	<p>State the learning objectives to the students. “At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply the basic rules of firearm safety; • correctly match ammunition to the respective caliber or gauge of a firearm; • show how to load and unload common modern firearm actions; • and show how to safely transfer a firearm from one hunter to another.”
<p><u>PART C:</u></p> <p><u>Teaching Method</u></p>  <p>3 minutes</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Note: The purpose of this lesson is to give the students time to practice loading and unloading the firearm. This lesson should be taught after Lessons 2A & 2B (Firearms Basics).</p> </div> <p>Say: “Previously we covered the basic parts of firearms, however not every firearm is the same, and some have parts that are different. So let’s start by looking at the specifics of this action.”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify those parts specific to the action type you are demonstrating (i.e. hammer, action release, loading port, barrel selector, bolt, and lever). Locate and name the type

	<p>of safety on the firearm. Demonstrate to the students how to operate the safety.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Demonstrate to the students how to operate the action and check to make sure the chamber and magazine (if magazine fed) are unloaded. 3. Ask: "How would we know what ammunition can be safely used in this firearm?" (<i>barrel stamp and head stamp</i>) Have a student read the barrel stamp on the firearm. Have a student read the headstamp on the ammunition. Ask the group to interpret the information. 4. Demonstrate and describe how to safely load and unload the action: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) muzzle pointed in a safe direction b) engage the safety c) select the proper ammunition d) load the firearm e) unload the firearm
<p><u>PART D:</u></p> <p><u>Student Exercise</u></p>  <p>13 minutes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The purpose of the student exercise is to have them practice safely loading and unloading the firearm. Proceed with the student activity: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) safely transfer the firearm to one of the students b) ask the student to demonstrate and state the safety rules c) ask the student to locate and operate the safety d) have the student load and unload the firearm e) have the next student approach the table, ready to accept the firearm f) have the first student safely pass the firearm to the next student g) continue until all students complete the exercise h) have the last student return the firearm to the table

	<p>unloaded, with the action open, the safety engaged, and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction</p> <p>i) monitor the students for safe firearm handling techniques; especially muzzle control and keeping their finger off of the trigger</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Note: Some students may require step-by-step coaching through the entire process.</p> </div> <p>6. If time permits, offer the students a chance to load/unload a different firearm of the same action.</p> <p>Students are not being tested at this stage; they are practicing a newly acquired skill. Have the students practice with the firearm to ensure they understand loading, unloading, and safe firearm handling. Observe them closely and correct any mistakes they demonstrate.</p>
<p><u>PART E:</u></p> <p><u>Student Summary</u></p>  <p>2 minutes</p>	<p>Ask students to recall the important topics that were covered in the lesson. It is important for students to be able to verbalize these points. Use questioning strategies to flesh out answers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you know which ammunition to use for a particular firearm? • Point to three parts on the firearm and ask them to name those parts. • What four things should you look for before accepting a firearm from someone? <p>END OF LESSON</p>

Addendum

A



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Aren't there some firearms with multiple barrels?

Yes, many break action firearms are double barreled. This may be either a "side by side" or an "over/under". Both of these have two barrels. In most situations, both barrels are the same size (e.g. 12 ga. or 20 ga.), however there are some that have one shotgun barrel and one rifle barrel (e.g. .410 and .22).