

Learn by Doing

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What new task have you learned at home or at work?

Definitions:

- Blade – the sharp part that cuts
- Staple – a piece of wire bent into the shape of an U
- Paper clip – a device used to hold papers together
- Mistake – an error



Reading

Bess is a clerk in an office. She is learning how to use the paper shredder.

16 Gail, Bess' boss, shows her how to use it.

25 Gail points to the on/off switch. She turns the shredder on. "Keep your hands
40 and clothes away from the shredder when it is on and in use. The blades are sharp,"
57 says Gail. She tells Bess to **remove** staples and paper clips from the paper. She says
73 to shred five or less sheets of paper at a time.

84 "I would like to try it. I learn best by doing," says Bess. She removes the
100 staple and puts the paper in the shredder. It stops. "I put in too much. I'll put in five
119 sheets next time. I'm glad I could try it. I learn from my mistakes," Bess says.

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Understanding

1. Where does Bess work? _____

2. What does she learn to use? _____

3. Who teaches Bess how to use it? _____

4. What does the word **remove** mean? _____

5. Why did the shredder stop? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: Write about how you best learn.
