

Lab Safety

In every lab class there is always the danger that you may expose yourself to injury. The chemicals and equipment that you use and the way that you use them are very important, not only for your safety but for the safety of those around you. Please observe the following rules at all times. Failure to do so increases your risk of accident.

Goggles

Goggles should always be worn when chemicals are being heated or mixed. This will protect your eyes from chemicals that spatter or explode. Running water should be available. If you happen to get some chemical in your eye, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If irritation develops, contact a physician. Take this information with you.



Smelling Chemicals

If you need to smell a chemical to identify it, hold it six inches away from your nose and wave your hand over the opening of the container toward your nose. This will “waft” some of the fumes toward your nose without exposing you to a large dose of anything noxious.

Chemical Contact with Skin

Your kit contains protective gloves to wear whenever you are handling chemicals. If you do happen to spill a chemical on your skin, flush the area with water for 15 minutes. If irritation develops, contact a physician.



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Clean up all Messes Immediately

This is no time to be a pig. Your lab area should be spotless when you start experimenting and spotless when you leave. If not, clean it.

Proper Disposal of Poisons

If a poisonous substance is used or formed during the experiments in the lab, the book will tell you. These must be handed according to the directions in the lab guide.



No Eating During the Lab

When you eat, you run the risk of internalizing poison. This is never done unless the lab calls for it. Make sure your hands and lab area are clean.



Horse-play is out

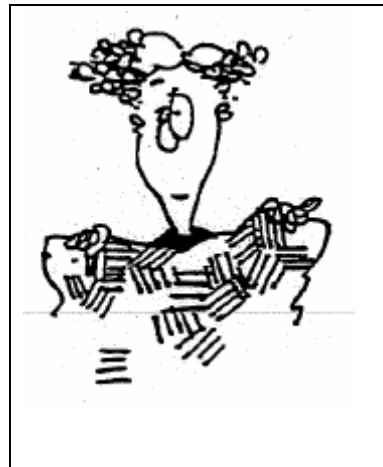
Horseplay can lead to chemical spills, accidental fires, broken containers, and damaged equipment.

- Never throw anything to another person
- Be careful where you put your hands and arms
- No wresting, punching or shoving in the lab

Save these for when you get older and start dating.



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Fire

If there is a fire in the room notify the person in charge immediately. If they are not in the room and the fire is manageable, smother the fire with a blanket or use an extinguisher in an emergency and send someone to find an adult.

Remember: Stop, Drop, and Roll

Better Safe Than Sorry

If you have a question, or if you are not sure how to handle a particular chemical, procedure, or part of an experiment, ask for help from your instructor or an adult. If you do not feel comfortable doing something, don't do it. If there is any concern upon chemical exposure, contact a physician.

