

Biology Safety Guide

Please study the safety rules carefully. Ask your teacher if you have any questions. You will have to pass a safety test on these rules prior to participating in any laboratory activity.

General Guidelines

DO:

- Read your lab directions before performing the lab. Ask your teacher if you have any questions about the lab procedure.
- Listen to and follow all instructions given by your teacher.
- Remove all unnecessary items from your lab space (i.e. backpacks, books, purses, etc.).
- Carry sharp objects with the tip pointing downward and away from your body.
- Clean your area and put away materials following the lab.
- Wash your hands at the end of the lab.
- Know the location of all safety equipment in the room: eye wash stations, fire blankets, fire extinguisher, showers, safety goggles, Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), lab aprons, and sharps container.
- Know lab shut-down procedures if performing a lab investigation during a fire drill (i.e. turn off gas and equipment and carefully secure any chemicals at your lab station).
- Notify your teacher if you have any allergies or wear contact lenses.
- Only handle animals when instructed to do so by your teacher.

DO NOT:

- Touch any equipment, chemicals or other materials in the lab area until instructed to do so.
- Eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the classroom.
- Run, participate in any sort of horseplay, or interfere with the lab experiments of others.
- Remove anything from the classroom or lab without permission.

Clothing	Accidents and Injuries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety goggles should be worn by all students when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ heating a substance ◦ doing any sort of grinding or cutting ◦ working with chemicals ◦ dissecting or handling preserved specimens • Wear safety goggles until instructed to take them off. • Use unvented goggles if you wear contacts. • Wear lab aprons/gloves when appropriate. • Tie back long hair, refrain from wearing baggy or bulky clothing, and remove dangling jewelry. • Close-toed shoes are preferred. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REPORT ALL ACCIDENTS AND/OR UNSAFE CONDITIONS TO THE TEACHER. • Chemical splash: If a chemical should splash in your eye(s) or on your skin, immediately flush the affected area with running water from the eyewash station or safety shower for at least 20 MINUTES. • Natural Gas: If you smell the odor of natural gas in the room, notify your teacher immediately.

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Handling Chemicals DO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smell chemicals by waving when instructed by your teacher. • Read the label twice to make sure you have the correct chemical. • Dispose of chemicals in the appropriate container provided by the teacher. • Keep your hands away from your face, eyes, and body until after they have been washed thoroughly. DO NOT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove chemicals from the laboratory. • Return unused chemicals to its original container. • Taste or touch any chemicals unless instructed to do so. • Use the same utensil to remove chemicals from two different containers. • Weigh chemicals directly on the balance pan. 	Handling Equipment DO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure all glassware is clean and dry before use. • Remove an electrical plug from the socket by grasping the plug, not the electrical cord. • Allow hot glass to cool before touching it with your hand. <i>Hot glass looks just like cold glass.</i> • Make sure your hands and working space are dry when using electrical equipment. • Microscopes should be handled gently with both hands. • To store microscopes, place objective on the lowest power, wrap the cord around the base, and apply dust cover. • Cut away from yourself and others when using a scalpel, razor blade, or scissors. • When cutting with a scalpel, hold it as you would a pencil when writing. • Only culture known, non-pathogenic bacteria in the classroom. DO NOT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use chipped or broken glassware. • Handle broken glass with your bare hands. Use a brush and dustpan to clean up broken glass. Put broken glass in sharps container. • Do not block walking paths with equipment or loose/excess power cords. • Leave carts and equipment unattended • String an electrical cord across a sink or near a water tap.
Heating Substances DO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use tongs or heat-protected gloves when handling any hot glassware or heated metal. • Point the open end of a test tube away from you and others. DO NOT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach across a flame. • Look directly into a container that is being heated. • Leave anything that is being heated unattended. • Heat a closed (with lid or stopper) container. • Immerse hot glassware into cold water, as it may shatter. 	