

Lab Safety Rules

1. Do only the experiments assigned or approved by your instructor.
2. Safety goggles must be worn at all times in the laboratory as directed by the instructor.
3. A lab apron must be worn as directed by the instructor.
4. Wear protective eyewear when handling dangerous chemicals. If anything gets into your eyes, go directly to the eyewash station and begin flushing your eyes with fresh water and have your lab partner notify the instructor. **DO NOT STOP** flushing the eyes until directed by the instructor or school nurse.
5. Some chemicals irritate or burn the skin. Others are absorbed through the skin and can make you ill. If any chemical has spilled on your skin, wash off the affected area immediately with plenty of fresh water. Get into the habit of washing your hands with soap and water before leaving the lab.
6. Do not touch chemicals with your hands unless instructed to do so.
7. **NEVER** taste anything unless directed to do so by your instructor.
8. When observing the odor of a substance, do not hold your face directly over the container. Instead, “waft” by fanning the air above the substance toward your nose using your hand.
9. Check the label of a chemical bottle carefully before using any of its contents. Read the MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) for each chemical before conducting the experiment.
10. Smother any fires with a wet towel (not paper). Also, know the location of the fire blanket and fire extinguisher in the laboratory.
11. Hair that is near-shoulder length or longer must be tied securely—Hair is **EXTREMELY** flammable!
12. Never point the open end of a test tube that is being heated toward you or another.
13. Be alert to what your lab neighbors are doing. Your neighbor’s accident may be your injury!
14. Protect your hands if you pick up hot objects. Use tongs whenever practical or damp paper towels.

ABOVE ALL, HORSEPLAY OF ANY KIND IN THE LAB IS DANGEROUS AND UNACCEPTABLE!