

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

- Safety goggles should be worn by all students when:
 - 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.

Accidents and Injuries

- 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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<p>Handling Chemicals</p> <p>DO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smell chemicals by wafting 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. <p>DO NOT:</p> <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.	<p>Handling Equipment</p> <p>DO:</p> <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. <p>DO NOT:</p> <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.
<p>Heating Substances</p> <p>DO:</p> <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. <p>DO NOT:</p> <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.	