



Lab Safety

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

1. 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.



2. 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 really stinky or dangerous.

3. 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.



4. Proper Disposal of Poisons.

If a substance ^{that} needs special disposal is used or formed during the experiments in this lab, the book will tell you. These must be handled according to the directions in the lab guide.



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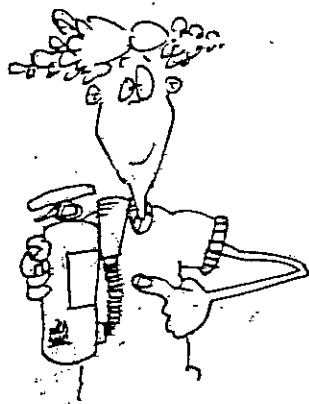
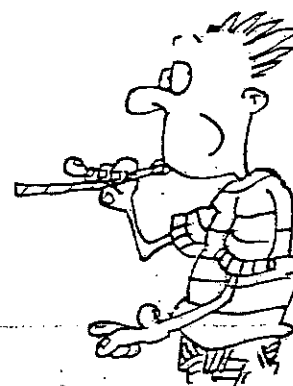


5. No Eating or Drinking During the Lab.

When you eat or drink in the lab, 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 always clean when you're finished experimenting.

6. Horseplay Out.

Horseplay can lead to chemical spills, accidental fires, broken containers, damaged equipment, and injured people. Never throw anything to or at another person! Be careful where you put your hands and arms. No wrestling, punching, or shoving in the lab.



7. Fire.

Remember the rule: No adults in the room = no flames allowed! Get adult help with any fire that's not part of the lab. Know where to locate and how to use a fire extinguisher. If clothes are on fire; STOP, DROP, and ROLL! or use a fire blanket.

8. Better Safe Than Sorry.

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



Lab safety is important! I tell you this because I want you to have fun and be safe when you do the experiments in this book or whenever you're working in a lab. Have fun!