

Laboratory Safety Rules

Read the safety rules below. Then answer the questions that follow.

★ General Laboratory Safety Precautions

- ☆ Follow all instructions carefully. Use special care when you see the word CAUTION in your laboratory instructions. Follow safety instructions given by your teacher.
- ☆ Never eat or drink in the science laboratory.
- ☆ Approach laboratory work with maturity. Never run, push, or engage in horseplay or practical jokes of any kind in the laboratory.
- ☆ Report all accidents or injuries and any breakage or spills to your teacher immediately.
- ☆ Keep your work area clean and uncluttered.
- ☆ Never perform unauthorized experiments. Do not mix together left over materials to see what happens.

★ Special Precautions Regarding Laboratory Apparel

- ☆ Roll long sleeves up above the wrist.
- ☆ Don't wear loose fitting sleeves or bulky outer wear.
- ☆ Tie back long hair.
- ☆ Wear safety goggles when using dangerous chemicals, hot liquids, or burners.

★ Special Precautions for Working with Heat or Fire

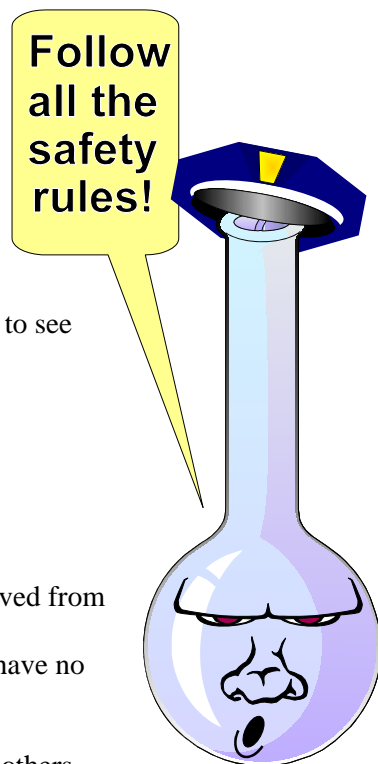
- ☆ Never leave a lit Bunsen burner or hot object unattended. When an object is removed from the heat and left to cool, it should be placed where it is shielded from contact.
- ☆ Never reach over an exposed flame. Plan carefully and position materials so you have no need to reach across hot apparatus.
- ☆ Use tongs, test tube holders, or pot holders to handle hot laboratory equipment.
- ☆ Always point the open end of glassware used for heating away from yourself and others.
- ☆ Allow hot materials to cool before moving them from your lab station.

★ Special Precautions for Working with Chemicals

- ☆ Never taste or touch substances in the laboratory without specific instructions.
- ☆ Never smell substances in the laboratory without specific instructions. Then, wave the air above the substance towards your nose and sniff carefully. Do not inhale fumes directly.
- ☆ Use materials only from containers that are properly labeled.

★ Special precautions for Working with Glassware and Other Laboratory Equipment

- ☆ Become familiar with the names and appearance of all the laboratory equipment you will use. Use only the equipment specified in the laboratory instructions unless directed otherwise by your teacher.
- ☆ Never use broken or chipped glassware.
- ☆ Do not pick up broken glass with your bare hands. Use a dustpan and a brush.



ON-LINE: Check out the web sites below.

- 📄 High School Safety Web Pages <http://www.chem.unl.edu/safety/hslabcon.html>
- 📄 Lab_Safety http://tiger.uic.edu/~magyar/Lab_Help/Lab_Safety/lab_safety.html

Answer the questions below based on your reading of the *Laboratory Safety Rules* above.

1. What should you do first if a thermometer rolls off your lab table and breaks? _____

2. You are heating a crucible. The lab instructions say to set it aside to cool. How do you do this safely? _____

3. You are heating a crucible. The bell rings. You need to clean up and store your crucible for the next lab period. What should you do? _____

4. The *Laboratory Safety Rules* state, "Plan carefully and position materials so you have no need to reach across hot apparatus." Why? _____

5. What should you do with broken glass? _____

6. When should you use safety goggles? _____

7. Some students find some unlabeled chemicals. They mix them together just for fun. Which laboratory rules are they violating? _____

