

Aquatic Science Safety Guidelines

Rules and Regulations for All Labs

1. Listen to all instructions given by your teacher and follow them carefully.
2. Read your lab carefully and follow directions.
3. Perform only those activities on which you have been instructed. Never handle lab equipment until instructed to do so.
4. Your behavior and attitude in lab should be excellent. Both your safety and the safety of others depend on it. There should never be any loud talking, horseplay or running.
5. Wear safety goggles when:
 - Working with heat
 - Working with grinding, cutting, etc.
 - Working with chemicals
 - Instructed to do so by your teacher.
6. It is your responsibility to take care of the lab equipment. Use it only as instructed. Report any damaged or missing equipment to your teacher.
7. Tie back long hair during labs.
8. Keep your hands and lab materials away from your mouth, nose, eyes, and face. Always wash your hands after a lab.
9. Clean and dry your lab equipment and work area at the end of class. Return all equipment and materials to the proper place.
10. When working with electrical equipment:
 - All equipment should be dry.
 - Check all cords and plugs to make sure they are in good condition.
 - Look for exposed wires or broken insulation.
11. When you are heating lab materials, never leave them unattended. Keep your clothing and hair away from the heat.
12. Sinks are used to dispose of liquid wastes only. At the end of lab, check sinks to make sure liquids have been rinsed down the drain. All solid wastes should be put in the trash can.
13. When heating test tubes, hold them at an angle. Never point the mouth of a test tube toward yourself or another person.
14. Never taste, touch, or smell chemicals unless the teacher tells you to do so.
15. Do not remove anything from the classroom without permission.
16. Never mix chemicals unless instructed to do so by your teacher.
17. Eating and drinking are prohibited in lab.
18. Scalpels can make very serious cuts if not used properly. When working with a scalpel, hold it as you would a pencil when writing. Never attempt to replace or remove the blade of the scalpel. Ask your teacher to replace it for you.
19. Microscopes are very delicate and expensive instruments. They should always be carried with two hands. They should be stored with the low power objective in place and the stage as low as possible.
20. Aquariums should be carried with two hands, having them under the tank.
21. Do not clean or move aquarium when electrical devices such as pump, filter, or light are plugged in.

Emergency Equipment

1. Eye Wash Stations are provided in all labs. These are used to flood eyes with water to remove foreign materials and chemicals.
2. Fire Blankets are specially-treated wool blankets provided in all labs are used to smother out a fire.
3. Fire Extinguishers are provided in all lab areas. These are used to put out small chemical, oil, or paper fires. In case of a major fire, notify the main office and evacuate the building using fire drill procedures.
4. Safety Goggles are provided for each student and can be the most important piece of safety equipment you use.

Emergency Procedures

1. Chemical Spills: If any chemical gets on your CLOTHING, flush with lots of water. Do not apply ointments. If any chemical spills onto the DESK OR FLOOR, flush with lots of water and wipe up with paper towels. If the spill is a very concentrated acid or base, neutralize with appropriate solutions and again flush with water. If any chemical gets into the EYE, immediately irrigate the eye at the eye wash. To make sure all the chemical is washed away, continue this procedure for 15 minutes. Do not try to neutralize the chemical that has splashed in the eye. Do not put anything on the eye. Contact lenses hinder the rinsing process.
2. Cuts and Abrasions: Immediately clean the wound and surrounding area with soap and warm water. Hold a sterile pad firmly over the wound until bleeding stops, then change the pad and bandage loosely. Notify the teacher and see the nurse.
3. Burns: If skin is not broken, immerse burn in clean, cold water or apply ice. If the skin is broken, see the nurse immediately.
4. Fires: Small fires should be put out using the fire blanket. The extinguisher should be used on larger fires.

Emergency Procedures and Safety Equipment for Aquatic Science Labs

1. Know the location and use of all safety equipment (goggles, aprons, eye wash, fire blanket, fire extinguishers, etc.)
2. Notify the teacher of any accident, regardless how minor.
3. **Eye Wash Stations** are provided in all labs. These are used to flood eyes with water to remove foreign materials or to dilute any harmful chemical. Continue irrigation of the eye for 20 minutes.
4. **Fire Blankets** are wool blankets provided in all labs and are used to smother out a fire. They can be used to wrap around an individual, smother a table fire, or smother a fire in a trash can.
5. **Fire Extinguishers** are provided in all lab area. These are used to put out small chemical, oil grease, or paper fires. In case of major fires, notify the main office and evacuate the building using fire drill procedures. Fire extinguishers must never be used on a person.
6. **Safety Goggles** are provided for each student and can be the most important piece of safety equipment you use. They are vital to the safety of your vision. Wear them according to your safety procedures guidelines or whenever instructed to do so. Goggles must be used even if eye glasses or contact lenses are worn.
7. **Gas Leaks.** If you should smell the odor of natural gas in your lab room, immediately inform your teacher.
8. **Burns.** If you burn yourself, tell your teacher and immerse the burned area in cold water.