



# Science Aware

## Guidelines For A Safe Lab

### *Plant Safety*

- Use caution when handling plants.
- Do not eat or taste any unfamiliar plant or plant parts.
- If you are allergic to pollen, do not work with plant or plant parts without a gauze face mask.

### *Glassware Safety*

- Check for broken, cracked, or chipped glassware. It should be disposed of properly.
- Do not force glass tubing into rubber stoppers.
- Clean and air dry all glassware.

### *Fire Safety*

- Tie back long hair and secure loose clothing when working near an open flame.
- Do not reach across an open flame.
- Know the location and proper use of fire blankets and extinguishers.

### *Eye Safety*

- Wear your laboratory safety glasses at all times.
- Know how to use the emer-

gency eyewash system. If chemicals get into your eyes, flush them out with plenty of water and inform your teacher.

### *Heating Safety*

- Turn off heat sources when they are not in use.
- Point test tubes away from yourself and others when heating substances in them.
- Use the proper procedures when lighting a Bunsen burner.
- To avoid burns, do not handle heated glassware or materials directly. Use tongs, test-tube holders, or heat resistant gloves.

### *Clothing Protection*

- Wear your laboratory coat or apron. It will help protect your clothing from stains or damage.

### *Poison*

- Do not mix any chemicals unless directed to do so in a procedure or by your teacher.
- Inform your teacher immediately if you spill chemicals or get any on your skin or in your eyes.

- Never taste any chemicals or substances unless directed to do so by your teacher.
- Keep your hands away from your face when working with chemicals.

### *Animal Safety*

- Handle live animals with care. If you are bitten or scratched by an animal, inform your teacher.
- Do not bring wild animals into the classroom.
- Do not cause pain, discomfort, or injury to an animal. Be sure any animals kept for observations are given the proper food, water, and living space.
- Wear gloves when handling live animals. Always wash your hands after handling any animals.

### *Electrical Safety*

- Use care when using electrical equipment.
- Check all electrical equipment for worn cords or loose plugs before using them.
- Keep your work area dry.
- Do not overload electrical circuits.