

Safety Symbols

To highlight specific types of precautions, the following symbols are used throughout the lab program. Remember that no matter what safety symbols you see in the textbook, all 30 of the lab safety rules previously described should be followed at all times.



EYE PROTECTION

- Wear safety goggles in the lab at all times.
- Know how to use the eyewash station. If chemicals get into your eyes, flush your eyes (including under the eyelids) with running water at the eyewash station for at least 15 minutes. Use your thumb and fingers to hold your eyelids open and roll your eyeball around. While doing so, ask another student to notify your teacher.



CLOTHING PROTECTION

- Wear an apron or lab coat at all times in the lab.
- Tie back long hair, secure loose clothing, and remove loose jewelry so that they do not knock over equipment or come into contact with hazardous materials.



HAND SAFETY

- Wear protective gloves when working with chemicals.
- Use a hot mitt or tongs to handle equipment that may be hot.



GLASSWARE SAFETY

- Inspect glassware before use; do not use chipped or cracked glassware.
- Never place glassware, containers of chemicals, or anything else near the edges of a lab bench or table.



CHEMICAL SAFETY

- Never return unused chemicals to the original container. Take only what you need.
- Label the beakers and test tubes you use with the chemicals they contain.
- Never transfer substances by sucking on a pipet or straw; use a suction bulb.
- Do not mix any chemicals unless specifically instructed to do so by your teacher.
- If a chemical spills on the floor or lab bench, tell your teacher, and wait for instructions before cleaning it up yourself.



CAUSTIC SUBSTANCE SAFETY

- Do not pour water into a strong acid or base. The mixture can produce heat and can splatter.



HEATING SAFETY

- Avoid using open flames. If possible, work only with hot plates having an on/off switch and an indicator light.
- When heating a chemical in a test tube, point the open end of the test tube away from yourself and others.



HYGIENE CARE

- Keep your hands away from your face and mouth while you work in the lab.
- Do not eat or drink any food from laboratory containers.
- Wash your hands thoroughly before you leave the lab.



WASTE DISPOSAL

- Help protect our environment by following the instructions for proper disposal.