

Classroom & Laboratory Safety

By C. Kohn

Agricultural Sciences

Waterford WI



General Expectations

- **Ask if unsure. Report if unsure. Do not act if unsure.**
- **Follow Instructions.**
- **Know all safety precautions & equipment so that you can act if/when needed.**
- **Keep areas neat and clean with chairs pushed in in case of emergency.**
- **You are responsible for preventing accidents.**
- **Never handle an unknown substance. Ask first.**



General Expectations

- **Alert your instructor of all emergencies and wait for their response before taking action.**
- **Never eat or drink in the classroom.**
- **Wash your hands after handling anything potentially harmful.**
- **Never work alone in a room or lab.**
- **If there is an emergency, stop what you are doing and be prepared to assist.**



Eyewear

- **Eyewear is needed any time we have...**
 - Lab chemicals are being used
 - Glassware is being used
 - Substances are being heated
 - Open flames are present
 - Organs or other live tissues are being dissected
- **Eyeglasses do not count as eye protection.**



Gloves

- **Gloves are needed anytime we have...**
 - Lab chemicals are being used
 - Organs or other live tissues are being dissected
- **Replace any gloves with rips or tears.**
- **Tell your instructor if we are running low on gloves before they run out.**



Lab Coats

- **Lab coats are needed any time...**
 - Lab chemicals are being used.
 - Organs or other live tissues are being dissected.
 - We have open flames.
- **Always neatly fold your lab coats when finished.**
 - It's the polite thing to do.



Apparel & Footwear

- **When working with glass, lab chemicals, live tissue, or outdoors, closed-toed shoes are needed.**
- **Do not wear overly-loose clothing when performing a lab.**
- **Dress appropriately if we go outdoors.**



Eyes & Contact Lens

- **If you spill a liquid in your eye (chemical, blood, etc.), alert your instructor if you have contacts.**
 - Just because a spill in your eye does not hurt does not mean it is not causing damage.
 - Always rinse your eyes in an eyewash station in the event of a spill.



Glassware

- **Always clean glassware before using if in doubt.**
- **Cold glass looks the same as hot glass.**
- **Test tubes should always be heated with the open end pointed away from people.**
- **Never use chipped, dirty, or broken glass.**



Source: ehs.washington.edu



Sharps

- **Always carry sharp objects securely with the sharp end pointed down.**
 - Never try to catch a falling sharp object.
 - Move away as it falls while alerting everyone nearby.
- **Always cut away from your body.**



Heat & Flames

- **Glass can shatter when heated and gas flames can have flare-ups – always use eye protection when heating or burning something.**
- **Never leave a burner or flame unattended.**
- **Always have a partner.**
- **Long or loose hair or clothing must be tied back.**



Laboratory Chemicals

- **Assume every chemical can be dangerous.**
- **Always read the side of the bottle before using a lab chemical.**
- **Once it's out it stays out.**
 - Never return used chemicals back into a container.
- **Always turn on a faucet before dumping a chemical**
 - Never add water to acid.
- **Only the instructor should have access to chemical supply areas.**
- **If you spill a chemical on your skin or in your eyes, immediately flush with water while alerting your instructor.**



Animals

- **All animals have the potential to carry serious disease.**
- **Always wash your hands after handling animals**
- **Alert the instructor of any loose animals and wait for their response before taking action.**
- **Never work with animals alone.**
- **Humane treatment of animals is required to be in this classroom.**



Source: keepanimalshealthy.org



Organ/Tissue Dissection

- **Gloves, goggles, and aprons/coats are needed whenever handling organs or tissue.**
- **Know how organs or tissue should be disposed of before beginning.**
- **If a fluid gets into a mucus membrane (mouth, nose, eyes), immediately flush with lots of water.**





EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROTOCOLS

General Principles

- **Alert your instructor first.**
 - “Code 1” is standard but not necessary.
- **If additional help is needed, call “0” on the phone AND get a neighboring instructor to assist.**
 - After school hours, dial 8-911.
- **Assist only if needed or requested.**
- **Stay safe and out of harm’s way.**



Spilled Chemical/Broken Glass

- **If there is broken glass or a chemical spill, first alert the instructor.**
 - Next stand guard at a safe distance while alerting everyone else to prevent another student from being exposed.
 - Be prepared to assist if the instructor asks.
- **Do not pick up broken glass with your bare hands.**
 - Do not hesitate to leave if there are chemical fumes.
 - Do not wait to flush with water if you spill a chemical on your skin.



Fire

- **If a fire breaks out, alert the instructor before anything else.**
- **If a fire alarm goes off, stop what you are doing and immediately leave the classroom.**
 - In our room, exit the main classroom door, go down the locker room hallway, and exit through Door 11.
 - Meet at the tennis courts where we will take attendance.
 - Do not leave your class to find someone else. Stay with your instructor.



Tornado

- **If a tornado watch is issued, keep doing as you were before but remain prepared.**
 - This only means conditions are favorable for a tornado.
- **If a tornado warning is issued, immediately stop what you are doing, leave through the main door, and go into the lower hallway by the locker rooms.**
 - Do not wait or hesitate – a tornado warning means a tornado is already on the ground.
 - Cover the back of your head and neck with your hands and duck forward.



Code Red/Intruder

- **Immediately stop what you are doing.**
 - Move into the Ag Office. Check to ensure all doors are closed and lights are off on the way.
 - Remain absolutely quiet and motionless throughout the lockdown.
- **Be prepared to act quickly to follow your teacher's instructions if needed.**
 - If you are no longer safe in your area and a safe escape is not possible, be prepared to fight back using anything you can (books, desks, etc.).
- **Always follow your instructor's advice.**
- **Code Yellow – keep doing what you are doing; you cannot leave the room.**



Allergic Reaction

- **It is your responsibility to alert the instructor about any allergies you may have and any time your allergies are a problem.**
- **If you have a need for an Epi-pen, state this immediately and state where it is.**
- **If another student is having an allergic reaction, stop what you are doing and be prepared to assist.**



Source: health198.com



Choking

- **If someone is choking, stop what you are doing and alert the instructor.**
- **Seek additional help if needed (by phone or in a neighboring classroom).**
- **Be prepared to assist the instructor.**



Seizure

- **If a student or instructor is having a seizure, push away anything they might strike with their body.**
- **Protect their head with a sweatshirt, backpack, or other padding.**
- **Do not try to hold down their body – allow them to flail freely.**
- **Be prepared to seek assistance from another instructor or with the phone.**



Unconsciousness

- **Unconsciousness is always life threatening.**
 - Seek immediate assistance from the instructor, main office, and neighboring instructors if someone becomes unconscious.
- **Be prepared to check the ABCs –**
 - Airway (is it clear?).
 - Breathing (look, listen, and feel for breathing).
 - Circulation (do they have a pulse? Are they turning blue?).





CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

Locate the following

- **Exits**
- **Fire Extinguishers**
- **Fire Blanket**
- **Eye Wash Stations**
- **Spill Station**



Classroom Policies

- **Hand-in Drawer**
- **Mailboxes**
- **Deposit Box**
- **Computers**
- **Announcements**
- **Latework & Grades**
 - **Everything is always on the website!!!!**



The 3 Rules

In order to be allowed in this classroom...

- **1. You have to ensure the safety of yourself and others.**
- **2. You have to support the learning of yourself and others.**
- **3. You have to be respectful to everyone in the room.**

