

# Intro to Life Science

## Section 2: Lab Safety

Scientists often work in a laboratory to carry out experiments and collect data. A lab may involve flammable chemicals, sharp instruments, or breakable glassware. A set of procedures is necessary to ensure the safety of everyone.

Safety guidelines that should always be followed when in the lab are as follows:

1. Act responsibly at all times in the laboratory.
2. Follow all instructions given either orally or written.
3. Perform **ONLY** those activities assigned and approved by a teacher.
4. Protect eyes, face, hands, and body by wearing proper clothing and using the protective equipment provided.
5. Carry out good housekeeping practices as instructed.
6. Know the location of safety and first aid equipment in the laboratory.
7. Notify a teacher immediately of an emergency.
8. **NEVER** work alone in the laboratory.
9. **NEVER** eat or drink in the laboratory unless instructed to do so by a teacher.
10. Handle living organisms or preserved specimens only when authorized by a teacher, and then always carefully and respectfully.
11. **NEVER** enter or work in a supply area unless instructed to do so and supervised by a teacher.

### Lab safety symbols:



Take care when handling sharp objects



Follow instruction to avoid injury when physical activity is required



Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water



Properly dispose of materials in proper bins



Handle animals with caution and respect



Handle plants only as directed by teacher

### Review:

1. Why is it important to follow rules in the lab?