

Common Mistakes / Unsafe Practice Made by Pupils in the Science Experiments

Some common mistakes / unsafe practice committed by pupils are:

- ◆ using excess chemicals
- ◆ heating a liquid in a test-tube unevenly
- ◆ pointing the mouth of the test tube towards others during heating
- ◆ not wearing safety spectacles when it is necessary
- ◆ not viewing reaction mixture in a test tube from the side, but directly above
- ◆ touching hot object
- ◆ heating mixtures containing concentrated acid / alkali too strongly
- ◆ heating a closed system
- ◆ lifting or carrying reagent bottles by the neck / stopper
- ◆ removing safety spectacles while cleaning laboratory apparatus
- ◆ not labeling containers of chemicals
- ◆ not observing warning labels on containers of chemicals
- ◆ not replacing stopper of bottle immediately after use
- ◆ picking up broken glass with bare hands
- ◆ using glassware without checking for cracks
- ◆ placing reagent bottle near the edge of a bench
- ◆ using boss and clamp incorrectly (boss is not the right way up or the clamp is over tighten)
- ◆ leaving experiments unattended
- ◆ improper way of mixing / shaking of liquids in test-tube
- ◆ not using boiling stones during distillation or reflux
- ◆ placing flammable liquids near a naked flame
- ◆ lighting a Bunsen burner with the air hole of the burner open
- ◆ washing hot glassware in cold water
- ◆ improper connection leading to wrong direction of water flow in a water condenser
- ◆ adding water to concentrated sulphuric acid
- ◆ improper techniques leading to sucking back of water into a hot glassware
- ◆ taking away laboratory chemicals without notifying the teacher
- ◆ throwing a burning splint / burning object into a waste bin