

Safety in laboratory

To be a scientist you cannot just study science from books, you must do experiments in the **laboratory** to test your ideas and make discoveries.

Practical work with scientific equipment makes science interesting and exciting, but there are potential **dangers**. A science laboratory can be a dangerous place if people do not take care while they do experiment. To stay safe, we must think about what things can cause harm. Remember that:

- Electricity can kill. We should never use water and electricity together.
- Sharp blades and pieces of broken material can cause cuts.
- Heat can cause burns; hot water and scald. Allow hot containers to cool before you move them.
- Heavy objects can cause bruises if they fall.
- Loose outer clothing can catch apparatus and knock it off the bench.
- People can fall over bags. An untidy laboratory can lead to accidents. Keep the floor tidy, and bags and coats out of the way.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- Heated substances can splash and cause burns or scalds.
- Some chemicals are poisonous and some are irritants and could damage your eyesight. Never smell, taste or touch a substance unless you know that it is safe.

In the laboratory each person must take responsibility for everyone else's **safety** as well as their own.

Note: The cloud has a word that is not included in the learning text. Don't take it into account until you're done. When they finish all the underlined words in the free space, place the word that is in the cloud.

What you have learnt

Scientists carry out experiments in the science _____.

There are potential _____ when performing experiment.

When working in the laboratory you must follow the _____.

The rules are designed for the _____ of everyone in the laboratory.

