

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Your Middle School Lab Cadet Safety Certification Quiz

Demonstrate proficiency in hazard symbols, proper behavior during transitions, and emergency response for your first foray into chemical science.

1. You notice your lab partner is goofing around and accidentally knocks over a beaker of clear liquid. What is the very first thing you should do?

Answer: B) Alert the teacher immediately so they can assess the hazard.

Safety protocols dictate that students should never handle an unknown spill themselves; notifying the instructor ensures the spill is managed with the correct neutralizers.

2. To properly identify a chemical's odor without inhaling dangerous fumes, you should use a hand motion to _____ the scent toward your nose.

Answer: C) waft

Wafting involves using your hand to gently wave the air above a container toward you, preventing the direct inhalation of potentially caustic or toxic vapors.

3. If you are wearing prescription eyeglasses, you do not need to wear safety goggles over them during an experiment.

Answer: B) False

Standard prescription glasses do not provide side-impact protection or a seal against liquid splashes, so safety goggles must always be worn over them.

4. When heating a test tube over a Bunsen burner, in which direction should the open end of the tube be pointed?

Answer: C) Facing away from yourself and all other students

Chemicals can 'bump' or erupt suddenly when heated; pointing the tube away from people prevents accidental contact with hot or corrosive substances.

5. Long hair should always be _____ back before starting any lab work near open flames or chemicals.

Answer: B) tied

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Tying hair back is a critical preventative measure to keep it from catching fire or dipping into chemical solutions on the lab bench.

6. It is acceptable to eat your lunch in the science lab as long as there are no chemicals currently visible on your desk.

Answer: B) False

Labs may have invisible residues or contaminants on surfaces; keeping food out of the lab entirely prevents accidental ingestion of hazardous materials.

7. Which of these is the correct way to dress for a middle school science lab day?

Answer: D) Closed-toe shoes and relatively snug clothing

Closed-toe shoes protect feet from spills and broken glass, while snug clothing reduces the risk of knocking over equipment or catching on fire.

8. The _____ station is used for at least 15 minutes if a chemical should happen to get into your eyes.

Answer: C) eyewash

An eyewash station provides a steady stream of water to flush out irritants; the 15-minute duration is required to ensure all chemicals are fully removed.

9. What is the proper procedure for disposing of chemical waste after an experiment is finished?

Answer: B) Follow the teacher's instructions for specific waste containers.

Many chemicals are environmentally hazardous or react with plumbing; they must be disposed of in designated containers as specified by the instructor.

10. You should only start a lab experiment once the teacher has given the verbal signal and you have read all the directions.

Answer: A) True

Waiting for the instructor's signal ensures that they are ready to supervise and that students understand the sequence of steps to avoid accidents.