Science Activity Safety Checklist
A safety resource from the National Science Teachers Association

Prior to submitting a new demonstration/activity/laboratory/field investigation for approval, the following must be completed:

- Safety training
- Safety Acknowledgment Form reviewed and signed
- Hazard analysis, including review of Safety Data Sheet (SDS)
- Risk assessment
- Safety controls reviewed and applied to address risks (elimination, substitution, engineering controls, standard operating procedures, class size, special needs students, and personal protective equipment (PPE))
- PPE and other safety protocols documented in procedures
- Safety precautions handout prepared for teacher and students
- Safety precautions for chemicals reviewed and documented in procedures (see Managing Your Chemical Inventory—Part 3)
- Safety precautions for physicals reviewed and documented in procedures (e.g., trip/fall hazards, projectiles, etc.)
- Safety precautions for biologicals reviewed and documented in procedures (e.g. blood-borne pathogen exposure, toxic plants, etc.)
- Safety precautions for hand and power tools reviewed and documented in procedures
- Lab/activity/demonstration performed by teacher prior to its use with students
- Plan in place to monitor behavior to assure safety requirements are being met during activity (e.g. making sure PPE stays on, maintaining proper distance from apparatus, etc.)

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