

## SAFETY DURING AT HOME SCIENCE EXPLORATIONS

The *Science Explorations To Do at Home* are designed to be completed in a home setting and are specifically targeted to each of [Ohio's Learning Standards for Science](#). These activities use easy to find, familiar, household items. The projects are intended to be used by parents to supplement instruction in the classroom or teachers may assign them during remote learning, particularly for students who do not have access to online resources. While performing these investigations, please be sure to practice proper safety procedures. Some of these activities should be done with the supervision of an adult.

The following are safety practices that should be employed when doing science explorations at home.

- Obtain parent permission before any exploration.
- Wash your hands with soap and water both before and after completing any science activity.
- Keep all materials used in the science activity away from your mouth, nose and eyes. Do not place your hands on your face when conducting or cleaning after an activity.
- Never taste anything during a science activity.
- Conduct explorations where they can be monitored and remain safe from younger siblings, pets, breakage or contamination.
- Keep area cleared of materials that could provide a tripping hazard (for example, equipment placed in walkways).
- Notify an adult immediately if an injury, spill, broken glass or other accident occurs.
- Clean up spills immediately to prevent the possibility of slipping or falling.
- Tie back long hair, and secure loose clothing and dangling jewelry.
- Prevent burns and fires when heating materials. If using a hot plate or flame, make sure to have adult supervision.
  - Make sure there are no combustible materials nearby.
  - Use tempered glass such as Pyrex™ when heating substances.
  - Never leave a room while a hot plate or burner is on.
  - Before handling a hot plate or burner, make sure it is unplugged and cool.
  - If using a flame, use tea candles that are short and wide and hard to knock over with normal use.
  - Never leave the room while a flame is lit.
- Use alcohol thermometers instead of traditional mercury thermometers.
- Do not use thermometers as a stirring rod. Stir with kitchen utensils or paint stirrers.
- Always label containers so the contents are identified.
- Never attach homemade devices to your home's electrical sockets.
- Clean up your area after conducting a science activity.

### Resources for Safety in the Science Classroom

*Science and Safety Making the Connection*. Council of State Science Supervisors, American Chemical Society, Eisenhower National Clearinghouse, National Institutes of Health, National Aeronautics and Space Administration: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2004-101/pdfs/scisafe.pdf>

National Science Teaching Association: <https://www.nsta.org/safety/>