

Sent: Mon, Nov 18, 2013 8:31 am
Subject: Lessons Learned: Know the hazards of ALL the materials!

Lessons Learned: The hazards of ALL the materials in a demonstration, simple experiment, or more complex research must be evaluated and shared with everyone working with the material. Dry ice is usually overlooked as part of the hazard assessment - everyone knows its cold, right? But do you also remember that it rapidly expands to CO2 gas and can cause explosions? And if there is a problem, do you have a plan? Hopefully, it doesn't include an evacuation of the entire school.

Use this handout for cryogenic safety:

[http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/Admin/HRSForms.nsf/pub/EHSD0193/\\$FILE/EHSD0193.pdf](http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/Admin/HRSForms.nsf/pub/EHSD0193/$FILE/EHSD0193.pdf)

PLEASE SHARE THESE LESSONS LEARNED WITH ALL YOUR SCIENCE TEACHERS!

STUDENT INJURED IN DRY ICE EXPLOSION AT MIDDLE SCHOOL IN MAR VISTA

<http://ktla.com/2013/11/13/dry-ice-explodes-at-middle-school-in-mar-vista-1-reportedly-injured/#axzz2keeD1DHZ>

Tags: us_CA, laboratory, explosion, injury, carbon_dioxide

A Los Angeles middle school student was injured when a package containing dry ice for a science experiment exploded Wednesday, authorities said.

The incident happened midday at Mark Twain Middle School located at 2224 Walgrove Ave., in Mar Vista (map).

A student brought two packages containing dry ice to school for a 6th grade science experiment when one of the containers "popped," according to a watch commander from the Los Angeles Police Department's Pacific Division.

Students were supposed to build a volcano, according to Lt. David Crew.

The injured student may have been struck by either the dry ice or a piece of the container, the watch commander said.

A janitor reportedly found the second container and put it outside. A bomb squad was responding as a matter of routine.

The injured student was treated and released to his or her parent, according to school police.

Investigators characterized the incident as an accident, however the school was placed on lockdown during the investigation. Hundreds of students could be seen gathered at the far end of a sports field, away from school buildings.

Kim Gates
Laboratory Safety Specialist
Environmental Health & Safety
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794-6200
Kim.Gates@stonybrook.edu
[631-632-3032](tel:631-632-3032)
FAX: [631-632-9683](tel:631-632-9683)
EH&S Web site: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/lab/>