

From: Kim Gates <kim.gates@stonybrook.edu>
To: Labsafety List <LABSAFETY-L@lists.sunysb.edu>
Sent: Fri, Sep 5, 2014 7:56 am
Subject: Lessons Learned: Any demo with fire can cause a serious incident

Lessons Learned: Its not just the Chemistry class that uses hazardous chemicals. Biology and Earth Science also use hazardous materials. Any time you use a flammable liquid, there is a chance for something to go wrong. NEVER RELIGHT THE FIRE! ALWAYS KEEP THE BOTTLE AWAY FROM THE FIRE!

And the order in which you do things does make a difference.

This was a demo done by the staff at the Discovery Center Museum in Reno. It's probably done by hundreds of teachers across the country. The same safety requirements for the Rainbow demo must be used with this one.

Have you done a hazard assessment of all of your procedures, including the ones you think are easy and low hazard? Do you have a checklist so the important steps are done in order? Does everyone know what can happen if the steps are not followed? And do you have an action plan to protect from those hazards? (e.g., shielding, PPE, fume hood)

Please help me spread the message! Share this with every science teacher and staff member that may be doing a science demo! Bring it up in your department meetings. Watch the video. Print out the handout and leave it in the office and prep rooms.

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