MY CHEM SAFETY TIPS

We asked "What do you have to remind students about most in the lab?"
These are the tips we received!

HEAT
- A hot crucible looks just like a cold one!
- Hot glass looks the same as cold glass; things that have been over a fire trend to get hot
- Hot glass looks exactly the same as cool glass!
- "Hot ring stands look like cold ring stands." Said 1st day of school for 20 years.
- Hot glass looks the same as cold glass. So do ring stands, bunsen burners, tongs, hot plates...

GOGGLES
- Wearing goggles is the most important rule. I'll joke about how well their forehead is protected if they are not wearing them correctly, or about how they are fashionable.
- They forget to wear goggles in lab and they sing the goggle song! "Oh where oh where can my goggles be? They're so important in chemistry!"
- Goggles are #1. They protect your eyes not your forehead. Always a good reminder.
- "What's wrong with your face?"
  "Huh, do I have something on my face?"
  "No, you're missing your goggles". By the end of the year students are always using the line on each other.
- I give a few extra credit points for labs to students who put their goggles on (over their eyes!) and leave them on the entire lab without needing to be reminded. They'll do almost anything for extra credit, so this works great!
- Students think goggles are for explosions, they're for not being able to rub your eyes
- constant screaming that goggles belong on your face not forehead
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POPULAR SAYINGS:
• Accidents are the worst! Therefore SAFETY FIRST!
• Making the school go "BOOM" is not a good thing
• Make sure you’re not tripping on acid, And don’t drop the base!
• Eyes on your reaction at all times
• Try not to blow up my lab
• If you can’t hear the sound of my voice, you’re too loud. My word is law!
• Protect your eyes, not your forehead.
• Goggles may be uncomfortable, but so is hydrochloric acid.
• Goggles only protect your eyes when they cover your eyes.
• Don’t be like Carol...
• Think GREEN chemistry - don't create a waste that can be harmful in the first place

GET STUDENTS INVOLVED!
• Have students create lab safety bumper stickers
• Make clean up / waste container reminder labels for your lab stations on 6x1 sheet labels

OTHER REMINDERS
• No horseplay, safety goggles, lab coat, gloves (if needed), MSDS sheets handy, remind them where eye wash station/shower is, location of fire extinguisher and fire blanket, nearest exits, never taste or smell chemicals, proper chemical disposal, etc.
• Lab coat, no shorts, closed toe shoes, no sandals, long hair tied in a bun, no pony tails
• Replace lids on chemical containers when done dispensing to prevent spills
• always have dry lab alternate for absences/dress code NO lab is worth an unsupervised makeup
• flip flops aren't so much about chemical as they are about broken shards of borosilicate glass