

# SAFE EXPERIMENTS

## Flammable Liquids



Conducting classroom chemistry experiments? See CPSC's [School Chemistry Laboratory Safety Guide](#) and check off these safety tips to avoid serious injuries from flame jetting and fire:

### Administrators:

- Make sure teachers complete a hazard analysis of planned experiments.
- Offer professional development and training to teachers. The National Science Teaching Association and American Chemical Society offer many resources.
- Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to teachers and students.

### Teachers:

- NEVER pour flammable liquids from a container over or near an open flame.
- Consider safer demonstrations, such as a flame test, instead of the common "rainbow experiment."
- If pouring flammable liquids, use the smallest beakers possible, and keep larger containers of flammable liquids out of the classroom.

**Beakers and containers:** Do not use Erlenmeyer flasks, Florence (boiling) flasks, or other glassware with a long, thin, or tapered neck to pour flammable liquids.

**Equipment:** If using equipment like glassware or tools, make sure they are intact or working properly. If not, repair or replace them.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Prior to conducting any experiment or demonstration using flammable liquids, teachers shall determine the appropriate PPE and ensure it is worn properly. Keep students at a safe distance, or use barriers to separate students from the flame.

**Storage:** Store flammable liquids in approved containers. Store approved amounts of flammable liquids in a suitable location.

**Expiration:** Check chemical inventory to make sure that nothing has expired or reacted.

Show your class this [short video](#) demonstrating the speed of flame jetting.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury go online to [www.SaferProducts.gov](http://www.SaferProducts.gov).

