Dress for Success
Gloves, apron, goggles or other personal protective equipment (PPE) should be worn at all times.

Work in a Well-Ventilated Lab
Open windows, if possible, and turn on the fume hood if one is available to avoid inhaling fumes during lab.

Lunch Before or After, Not During
Refrain from having any food, drink or gum during dissection activities.

Speak Up
Ask questions if you’re unsure of what to do, and always tell your teacher if you get hurt during the lab.

Check it Out
Inspect your tools. Dirty, dull or rusty scissors, scalpels or blades are more dangerous than sharp, clean ones.

Always Away
Specimens should be cut away from the body and other people. If necessary, reposition or move the specimen to ensure safety.

Pin it
Mount specimens to a dissection pad or tray before beginning dissection. Use pins to hold skin back and improve visibility. Never dissect a specimen while holding it.

Easy Does it
Cut specimens gently, avoiding the use of too much pressure or excessive force. Deep cuts may slice through internal organs. Use scissors to cut bones.

Keep Them Clean
Wash hands before leaving the lab. Avoid touching the face, adjusting glasses or doing other unconscious gestures that spread contamination.

Leave it Clean
Allow time for proper lab clean-up. Thoroughly rinse and dry tools and pans, and properly dispose of all preserved materials.

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