

10 Tips for Successful Dissection



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.



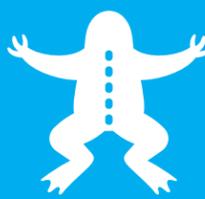
Speak Up

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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