

LET'S DO CHEMISTRY

Label Instructions

READ AND USE LABELS

While most of the *Let's Do Chemistry* activities use familiar substances and none of the materials are highly flammable, rapid oxidizers, or strong corrosives, it's important to clearly label every container and tool (whether provided in the kit or otherwise) with the correct chemical name. Correctly labeled chemical containers help facilitators and participants successfully do an activity and communicate relevant safety information. Label pipettes, measuring spoons, and other tools that may correspond to specific chemical reagents in order to avoid cross-contamination.

Always include:

- The full name of the chemical. Use the full name rather than just an abbreviation, popular name, or chemical formula. For example, use "sodium carbonate" rather than " Na_2CO_3 " or "soda ash."
- Any relevant hazard information others should know.

If you plan to store a solution or materials, you can also add information about who prepared it and the date it was prepared.

Be sure to write all information clearly so others will be able to read it, and use a smudge-proof pen! The physical *Let's Do Chemistry kit* includes pens and water-resistant labels. Other specific labeling materials that work well are permanent markers (like Sharpie™ brand markers) and water-resistant stickers or freezer tape.

Your institution may have special rules or protocols for chemistry related activities, including special instructions related to labeling chemical materials and activity tools, so check with your facilities staff, safety committee, and/or others. Learn more about safe practices in the *Let's Do Chemistry: Safety Guide* included in the physical kit and with the online digital kit resources.