

A Day in the Lab

Mark, Juan, and Tina were eager to begin testing the properties of different chemicals. Juan placed a sample of chemical A in a test tube and began to heat it. Without goggles on, he peered into the test tube to see what was happening. Meanwhile, Mark was looking at a sample of liquid chemical B. It seemed to have an unusual odor, so he took a deep whiff of it. Then he put a drop of it on his finger to taste.

By this time, Juan was tired of heating chemical A, so he decided to heat a sample of chemical C—even though the instructions in his textbook stated that only chemical A was to be heated. As Juan tried his experiment, Tina began to observe the properties of chemical D by adding an acid to it. As she placed acid on the sample, she splashed some on her hand and then splashed more on the sleeve of her shirt. Then, leaving the top off the bottle of acid, she went on to test something else.

When the group was finished working, they left the chemical samples in the test tubes and put them away in a cupboard. One of the test tubes had a crack in it, but since it was not very large they put that test tube away with the others. As Tina was leaving the lab, she noticed that she had a small cut on her finger. She decided that it was not important and did not mention it to anyone.

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What did Juan do wrong as he was heating chemical A?
2. What mistake did Mark make with chemical B?
3. What was unsafe about Juan's moving on to chemical C?
4. What should Tina have done when she splashed the acid on her hand and sleeve?
5. What did the group do wrong when leaving the lab?
6. What should Tina have done when she noticed the cut on her finger?

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