

RISK ASSESSMENT

Subject: Yr 8 Science

Date conducted/last reviewed: Term 2 2010

Experiment /Task: *Unit:* The Living World

Topic: Circulatory System

Experiment: Heart Dissection

Brief description of experiment:	
To dissect a sheep's heart and identify the major features.	
Risk Level: Medium (level 2)	
HLS-PR-012 Curriculum Activity Risk Management Modules:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Hazards • Maintenance and operation of a safe laboratory • Safe work practices conducting science experiment activities • Safe operation of laboratory equipment 	
Hazards	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissection material (treated as contaminated). 	Sharp, cutting instruments (scalpels).
Risk Control Measures:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of safety goggles, gloves and apron at all times. • Teacher reviews experimental procedure with class. • Students informed regarding the hazards. • Biological wastes correctly disposed of i.e. wrapped in newspaper and disposed of by laboratory assistances. • Benches and all equipment used are disinfected at the completion of the experiment. • Teacher demonstrates the use of dissecting equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher distributes scalpels to benches and then removes them from benches. • Scalpels are not to be removed from the bench area i.e. no walking around. • Scalpels always remain on the tops of the benches; are never dropped below the level of the bench. • Students not using the scalpel are to stand opposite the student carrying out the dissection, not beside. • All dissection occurs on the tile placed on newspaper. • All students wash their hands at the completion of the experiment (before returning to desks).
Standard Operating Procedure:	
Laboratory Use for Experiments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can only enter the laboratory when the teacher is present. • Students must not enter prep-room areas. • Fully enclosed footwear is required at all times. • No eating or drinking in the laboratory. • Work area is to be kept clean and tidy. • No sitting on stools during experimentation. • Experiment trays must be returned neat and tidy ready for use again. • Scientific assistants must be notified of damaged or missing materials or equipment. • High risk experiments can only be performed in the laboratory, unless indicated by the risk assessment where it must be performed outside (e.g. rockets). • It is the teacher's responsibility to leave the laboratory clean and tidy. • Experiments must be ordered two days prior to the day required. • Equipment for formal experiments, excursions and camps must be ordered one week prior to 	

the day needed.

Only experiments with a completed risk assessment will be prepared

Dissection

- Teacher demonstrates correct dissection procedure for the specimen.
- . Vinyl apron and goggles to be worn by all students and the teacher.
- Gloves to be worn by students conducting the dissection.
- . Teacher demonstrates correct use of scalpel.
- . Dissecting equipment sterilised prior to and after use.
- . Dissecting equipment (probes, tweezers and scalpels) counted out and in.
- Scalpels provided in and returned to lined container, blade end down.
- . Dissection tile placed on newspaper. All dissection is conducted on the tile.
- Gloves, dissected material and newspaper to be discarded in to a separate bag, then disposed of by scientific assistants.
- . Lab benches and aprons sprayed with disinfectant.
- . Students wash hands after packing up. Disinfectant provided.

Injuries

- Any minor injuries to be recorded in the minor incidents book. Minor incidents include minor cuts, burns.
 - Parents may need to be contacted, depending on the injury.
- For major injuries a specific form must be completed. See scientific assistants and HOD for forms. Parents must be contacted in this instance. Students may need to be sent to first aid at administration.

* Relevant teachers are to review and assess the risk assessment for their own class