



Science ASSIST eNews

2015 - The year in focus

2015 has been a busy year for the Science ASSIST team as we continue to source and develop the best science education resources - both curriculum and technical - for Australian teachers and school laboratory technicians. We have presented workshops at nearly all state and territory Science Teacher Association and Laboratory Technician Association conferences. The website continues to draw more and more teachers and lab techs and the Science ASSIST expert groups have been 'flat out' answering all the questions asked via the Q&A section on the website.

Did you know that:

167 questions have been asked and answered on the Science ASSIST website. Here is a sample:

- [Van de Graaff/Insulin pump](#) (safety in physics)
- [Use of a Spirometer](#) (safety in biology)
- [Making Nylon](#) (safety in chemistry)
- [Chemical Storage Timeframes](#) (safety in chemical storage)
- [Organic chemistry](#) (chemical disposal)
- [Year 3 unit on heat transfer](#)
- [Chemical reactions Yr 10](#)

468 resources are now available, including:

Links to over 400 quality science resources that cover the Australian Curriculum:
Science

7 Connected Learning Experiences (CLEs)

The most recent ones include:

- [Magnetism and electrostatics CLE](#)
- [Investigating patterns of inheritance CLE](#)
- [Reaction rates CLE](#)

27 Information sheets

A few to tempt you:

- [AIS: School science area security](#) (a timely one to highlight)
- [AIS: Guidelines for ordering, distribution and return of equipment for practical activities](#) (our most popular information sheet)
- [List of recommended chemicals for science in Australian schools](#) (ensure that you are accessing the latest version)

20 Standard Operating Procedures

Take a look at these three -

- [SOP: Use and care of the compound light microscope](#) (biology)
 - [SOP: The Thermite Reaction](#) (chemistry)
 - [SOP: Demonstrating the Van de Graaff generator](#) (physics)
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What's in store for 2016?

- Many more CLEs!
- Guidelines for the design and planning of secondary school science facilities in Australian schools
- Induction checklists for school laboratory technicians
- Microbiology guidelines
- Chemical Management Handbook (incorporating the 'Recommended list of chemicals for science in Australian schools').
- Workshops for teachers and lab techs

Happy holidays from the Science ASSIST team!



We would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for the support during 2015 and we look forward to further enriching the Science ASSIST website with science resources, and answering your questions, in 2016.

Please make it your New Year's resolution to let at least 10 colleagues know about Science ASSIST so we can continue spread the word!

Please note: The Science ASSIST team will be taking a break between 18 December 2015 - 11 January 2016. Any questions posted to the website during this period will be answered after 11 January.

Science ASSIST is an innovative national online advisory service for school science educators and technicians. Advice is provided by an expert national advisory team with extensive collective experience across all areas of science. Science ASSIST is managed by the Australian Science Teachers Association (ASTA) in consultation with Science Education Technicians Australia (SETA). It is funded by the federal Department of Education and Training.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONTACT US

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