



## 14. Ka boom!

### What to do - Students

Sometimes kids at school do science experiments using different types of chemicals. If we are not careful when some of these chemicals are mixed, they can react in ways that we don't quite expect.

1. Use the Internet to research accidents that have happened in schools where kids have accidentally combined chemicals that have reacted violently.
2. If you have a science room in your school, you can work with your teacher to find out what chemicals you have, what are their properties, what safety measures you should take when you handle them, and what chemicals they can safely be mixed with. This information can be recorded on safety information sheets for each chemical.
3. Design a 'pre' experiment checklist that kids can use to make sure that the experiment is done safely.

### Teacher tips

#### CF: This activity links to CF outcomes

The Arts	
English	1,3, 9
Health and Physical Education	1, 2
LOTE	1, 3
Mathematics	
Society and Environment	1, 3, 4
Science	1, 3, 4, 9
Technology and Enterprise	3, 4

**Conducting the activity:** This activity is designed as a small group activity.

**Class discussion:** Talk about collecting and storing information that students can use for our safety in the future, and the importance of always being vigilant when using chemicals. Discuss how many common chemicals that we come in contact with every day are, or can be, very dangerous.

Use the idea of a checklist as a memory jogger for the ThinkSafe SAM steps. You could look at Material Data Safety Sheets as a guide for these checklists and show the students how to read labels.

**Expanding the activity:** The activity could be expanded by starting to think about who in the school needs to access the information, for what purpose, and what is the best way to provide the information to them.