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Sample Mystery Stations: Practice Science Safety

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Place 3-4 fragrant but safe items in small containers; cover with foil and poke some holes in foil.

Vanilla Cinnamon

Orange juice/slice Vinegar

Students will practice "wafting" the scent toward their nose gently with their hand, rather than taking a big sniff! Can they identify the smell?

Goggles

Prepare food color in water in large beakers or flasks: One yellow, one blue. (or whatever two food colors you have on hand!)

Students will put on goggles to practice safely transferring small amount of liquid (10 ml) into test tubes. Use transfer tool appropriate to the grade level: pipette, measuring cup, etc.

In a clear upright test tube (or beaker or flask):

- 1. Measure 10 ml of the yellow water and place in the empty tube/flask
- 2. Predict what will happen when you add 10 ml of the blue water.
- 3. Measure 10 ml of the blue water, and add to the tube/flask with the yellow water.
- 4. What happens? Why?

Mystery Bags (or Boxes)

Prepare 8-10 brown paper bags or small boxes. In each bag or box place a small quantity of one type of item. For example, paper clips, pennies, rubber bands, dried beans, crayons, legos, etc. Tape closed.

To practice safely getting and putting away supplies, walking care, Students follow written directions (or picture signs) to get one Mystery Bag (or Box) Box from the designated bin. Students can shake, listen, and use other observation skills (no peeking inside!). What do they think is in the box, and why? How could they test it further to find out if they are right?

When done, put the mystery bag/box back in the bin.