

## Safety advice

### Year 9, unit 1: Ecosystems

#### Lesson 1

Students should take care moving around the classroom when linked in food chains. Ensure all chairs are pushed in and that there are no tripping hazards.

#### Lesson 2

Ensure there are no students allergic to the materials used (products such as Smarties® and M&M's® can have traces of peanuts). Ensure all students wash their hands after handling the materials. Students should not eat in the laboratory.

A game of chasey can get boisterous with some classes. If necessary the students can be limited to walking instead of running. Ensure that the surface is flat and large enough for the activity.

Students should not eat the popcorn that has been thrown on the ground.

#### Lesson 3

Ensure there are no students with a latex allergy for the balloon activity. An alternative is using large pieces of coloured cardboard.

#### Lesson 4

Ensure students have a good understanding of moving through an ecosystem to minimise damage to the environment.

Some pH indicators can be toxic so ensure that both you and the students are aware of potential hazards of such materials. Consult relevant MSDS for information on hazards and disposal.

Ensure that the site you use for sampling soil is not contaminated with potential toxins. Students should wear gloves.

#### Lesson 5

Students should take care moving around the classroom.

Ensure all chairs and other tripping hazards are cleared from the area.