

Aseptic Technique

Biology

The practices that prevent contamination in a microbiology lab.

Educational reference for teaching laboratories.

1

Disinfect the working surface

Before and after.

2

Work near a flame

The updraught reduces airborne contamination.

3

Flame the loop

Until red hot, then cool before touching the culture.

4

Flame the bottle neck

On opening and closing.

5

Lift the lid at an angle

Never fully remove a Petri dish lid.

6

Tape, invert and incubate

Inverted stops condensation dropping onto the agar.

IN SCHOOLS

Incubate at 25°C, not 37°C

Never open an incubated plate

Autoclave or disinfect all waste

Educational reference. School practice incubates below body temperature specifically to reduce the risk of culturing human