# SSERC logo

**SSERC Risk Assessment** (revised version November 2009)

(based on HSE ‘5 steps to risk assessment’)

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| Activity assessed | Flame Colours |
| *Date of assessment* | 3rd January 2020 |
| *Date of review (****Step 5****)* |  |
| *School* |  |
| *Department* |  |

| Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 | Step 4 | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *List Significant hazards here:* | *Who might be harmed and how?* | *What are you already doing?*  *What further action is needed?* | *Actions* | | | | |
| *by whom?* | | *Due date* | | *Done* |
| Solutions containing metal salts are toxic, harmful, dangerous for the environment and irritant | Technician and teacher by inhalation  Technician, teacher and pupil by splashes | Avoid breathing in any dust  Wear indirect vent goggles EN 1663  Consider wearing gloves.  If contact with eyes or skin was off/ out with copious quantities of water |  |  | |  | |

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| **Description of activity:**  The colours imparted to flames by various metal salts can be examined in various ways.   1. Making aqueous solutions of metal salts and spraying them through a Bunsen flame using an atomizer spray 2. Putting salts in an array of watch glasses, adding methanol (or ethanol) and igniting 3. Soaking wooden splints in solutions of the salts and then holding that in the flame 4. Soaking sugar lumps in metal salt solutions and ethanol and igniting. |
| **Additional comments:**  Any liquid from the sprays that has landed on the surroundings can simply be wiped up and the paper put in the waste. |