

Risk assessment – Science of Magic

Risk assessment last reviewed	Name: Matthew Page			Severity (S)		Likelihood (L)	Risk rating (S x L)
	Job Title: Education Outreach Officer						
	Signature: 	Date: 07/08/2026					
Risk assessment last approved	Name: Lucinda Offer, Head of Science Communication						
	Signature: 						
	Date: 30/09/26						
Date of next review	August 2027						
Hazard	Risk	Control measures	(S)	(L)	Risk rating*		
Water spillage	Everyone Spills of water might lead to slips and falls	Presenter to be careful with water and have blue roll available to wipe up spills	2	3	6		
Consuming materials	Volunteers Swell gel could continue to swell in the stomach	Do not allow swell gel to be consumed; trick should be removed from near volunteers during blindfold section of show	5	1	5		
	Volunteers Extremely salty water could cause vomiting and/or dehydration if ingested	- Do not allow saltwater to be ingested - Drink plenty of freshwater if ingested	2	1	2		
General	All	Volunteers should not be given access to board or screw	2	1	2		

Please use this risk assessment in conjunction with your own prior assessments and dynamic management of risk.

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	Sharp tip of screw could cause a minor injury Wooden board could leave splinters	Board should be checked for splinters before use			
Hydrogen peroxide	All 30% hydrogen peroxide is corrosive and a powerful oxidiser	- Remove from contact with combustible material e.g. flammable vapours, paper, wood dust and gases - Use gloves and safety glasses when setting up - Keep well away from audience at all times - Store bottle securely out of sight - If spilled on skin, wash off with copious amounts of water - Remove and wash contaminated clothing CLEAPSS guidance attached here	3	1	3
	All Reaction creates a lot of heat; potential burns	- Do not handle reaction vessel from the bottom - Do not allow audience to handle reaction vessel after show	2	1	2
Manganese Dioxide	Presenter Harmful if swallowed	- Manganese dioxide pre-made into small wrapped packets. These are placed inside the “genie” bottle for entirety of show and only mixed at very end. No access to the packets for any audience members CLEAPSS guidance attached here	4	1	4

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