

Helpdesk

Editor's questions

Helpdesk has not featured in the last two issues, but a couple of questions have arisen which I thought worth asking readers.

How do we suck?

In a recent exchange of notes with an author of a proposed article we considered how drinks are 'sucked' into the mouth using a straw. My thought is that this action seems so instinctive that it is basically the same action as that with which new babies take their first milk. But after years of continued success with a straw, I realise I do not know the details of this natural and successful action. Are the lungs involved? If so, how does the liquid go into the stomach and not the lungs? Is the tongue involved? Is the inlet from the nose blocked during this process?

Help!

Hard soap – soft soap

Using a traditional bar of soap (as opposed to the now popular gels), I notice that new soap seems to dissolve relatively easily, but when it gets to the state of being well used, two things can happen. If it is left on a damp surface or soap-dish, the outer layer becomes very soft and when used it dissolves too easily. If it is left so that it dries, it becomes rather hard and difficult to dissolve. This seems to become worse as the soap is getting older and down to the final remains. Is this an illusion, or is old soap really more difficult to dissolve?

Help!

Geoff Auty

Editor, SSR

FITTING OUT OR REFURBISHING A PREP ROOM OR SCIENCE LABORATORY?



ASSOCIATED LABORATORY SERVICES (UK) LTD, have helped in the design, set up and installation of numerous school and college facilities throughout the UK.

Please contact us for a free site visit, survey and quotation.

- LABORATORY BENCHING ● FIXED FUME CUPBOARDS
- SEMI-MOBILE FUME CUPBOARDS
- FILTERED FUME CUPBOARDS ● TABLES
- STORAGE UNITS ● FUME CUPBOARD TESTING

Associated Laboratory Services (UK) Ltd

Tel: 01376 322938

www.als-uk-ltd.com e: info@als-uk-ltd.com