Pick eight students to perform aloud pages 12-15 from the book. Prior to a public performance, have students look through the pages and identify their character. Students can then use the scripts provided on this CD-ROM to practice their parts. Suggested props: lab coat and goggles for Max Axiom, apron and goggles for student, oven mitt and goggles for Dr. Lopez, hat and gloves for Dr. Kincaid, beakers and table for room.

**Main Script**

**Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside "laboratory"...**

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

**Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid...**

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

**Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory...**

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
**Scene One:** Max Axiom takes students to the outside "laboratory" . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

**Scene Two:** Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

**Scene Three:** Back in the school laboratory . . .

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
Dr. Lopez

Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside "laboratory" . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory . . .

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside “laboratory” . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory . . .

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside “laboratory” . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory . . .

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Narrator

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
**Scene One:** Max Axiom takes students to the outside "laboratory" . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

**Scene Two:** Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

**Scene Three:** Back in the school laboratory . . .

**Student 1:** Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

**Student 3:** Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

**Student 3:** Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

**Student 4:** Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
**Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside “laboratory” . . .**

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

**Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .**

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

**Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory . . .**

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside “laboratory” . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory . . .

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.
Scene One: Max Axiom takes students to the outside “laboratory” . . .

Max: Of course, science experiments aren’t limited to a classroom. The earth can be your laboratory as well! Studying soil, water, and other biological materials is exciting. But these things can be harmful if not handled properly. I know a scientist who knows all about outdoor science safety.

Scene Two: Now in the woods, Max is walking towards Dr. Kincaid . . .

Max: I thought you’d be here, Dr. Kincaid. I was just talking about the importance of working safely outdoors.

Dr. Kincaid: G’day, mate! You’re right, Max. Always wear protective clothing to guard against germs and pollutants. And watch for plants that cause allergic reactions. See that poison ivy? It’ll give you a dreadful rash. Also, use the right containers to seal in any specimens you collect. Some should be cinched up tight while others need air to breathe.

Scene Three: Back in the school laboratory . . .

Student 1: Do you think he likes his new home, Professor Axiom?

Student 2: Yeah, we wouldn’t want him to croak!

Max: I think we’ve given him the proper habitat, Laura. But everyone must help keep his food and water clean. You need to be responsible with all scientific experiments.

Max: Now, let’s turn to the experiments you’re working on today. We have our instructions. Looks like it’s going to be a great experiment.

Student 3: Cool! Do we get to eat the chocolate after we’re done?

Max: I’m afraid not. Don’t think of this as chocolate. It’s a science experiment. And you don’t eat science experiments.

Student 3: Rats.

Max: First, we’ll heat a beaker of water on the hot plate. Before I plug in the hot plate, I better make sure my hands are dry. While we wait for this to heat up, let’s see how a flavor chemist handles this situation. Dr. Lopez?

Dr. Lopez: Hi, Max. I’m testing a sticky lollipop mixture. I have to stay here and watch it heat up. We never leave a heat source unattended. I’m testing different flavors to see how higher heat affects each one.

Max: Just like Dr. Lopez, we’re using glass beakers to heat our water and chocolate. But porcelain or metal containers can be used to heat substances as well. Whatever container is used, it should have a label that says “heat resistant.” Looks like your water is ready for the next step in this experiment.

Student 4: Professor Axiom!

Max: Uh-oh. I better see what’s going on over there.