

Laboratory Safety Rules

Safety in the science classroom is the #1 priority for students, teachers, and parents. To ensure a safe science classroom, a list of rules has been developed and provided to you. These rules must be followed at all times. **Both you and a parent or guardian must read the lab safety rules and sign the accompanying safety contract before you may participate in the laboratory.**

General Guidelines

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory. No horseplay is allowed.
2. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. If you do not understand a direction or part of a procedure, ask the instructor before proceeding.
3. Never work alone.
4. When first entering a science room, do not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials in the laboratory area until you are instructed to do so.
5. Do not eat or drink in the laboratory.
6. Perform only those experiments authorized by the instructor. Do not do anything with the lab materials that is not called for in the procedure.
7. Be prepared for your work in the laboratory.
8. Keep your work area clean and take only necessary items to the lab tables.
9. Keep the aisles clear.
10. Know the locations of safety equipment.
11. Be alert and proceed with caution at all times. Notify the instructor immediately of unsafe conditions.
12. Dispose of chemicals as instructed, and never return unused materials to their original container unless instructed to do so.
13. Experiments must be personally monitored at all times.
14. Students are not permitted in the science storage area.
15. During a fire drill, turn off all equipment.

Clothing

16. When chemicals, heat, or glassware are used, students will wear laboratory goggles. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.**
17. Contact lenses should not be worn in the laboratory.
18. Dress properly: long hair, dangling jewelry, and loose or baggy clothing are a hazard in the laboratory. Long hair must be tied back and dangling jewelry and loose or baggy clothing must be secured. Shoes must completely cover the foot. No sandals allowed.

Accidents and Injuries

19. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the instructor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.

20. If a chemical should splash in your eye(s) or on your skin, immediately flush with running water from the eyewash station or safety shower for at least 20 minutes. Notify the instructor immediately.

Handling Chemicals

21. All chemicals in the laboratory are to be considered dangerous. Do not touch, smell, or taste and chemicals unless instructed to do so.
22. Acids must be handled with extreme care. Always add acid to water.
23. Never dispense flammable liquids anywhere near an open flame or heat source.
24. Never remove chemicals or other materials from the laboratory area.

Handling Glassware and Equipment

25. Never handle broken glass. Report all broken items to your instructor for clean up.
26. Examine glassware before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glassware. Never use dirty glassware.

Heating Substances

27. Never leave anything that is heating or is visible reacting unattended. Always turn off the hot plate when not in use.
28. Do not point the open end of the test tube being heated at yourself or anyone else.
29. Heated metals and glass remain very hot for a long time. They should be set aside to cool and picked up with caution.
30. Do not put hot glassware directly on the laboratory table. Allow time to cool before touching it.

Failure to follow these rules may result in one or more of the following consequences:

- removal from the lab area
- alternate lab assignment
- loss of future lab privileges