



LABORATORY SAFETY CONTRACT

The science laboratory is a safe place to experiment if you are careful. You will be working with equipment and materials that can cause injury if they are not handled properly. Accidents happen because of carelessness, haste, and disregard of safety rules and practices. You must assume responsibility for the safety of yourself and others. Here are some safety rules to help guide you in the laboratory.

1. You will conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory. Never fool around in the laboratory. Horseplay, practical jokes, visiting other workstations and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.
2. 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.
3. **DO NOT ATTEMPT ANY UNAUTHORIZED EXPERIMENT.** Perform only laboratory operations and activities in which you have received instructions and have been given permission.
4. You must know what to do if there is a fire drill during a laboratory period; containers must be closed, gas valves turned off, fume hoods turned off, and any electrical equipment turned off.
5. You must locate and be familiar with all safety features explained by your instructor: fire extinguishers, fire blankets, eye wash fountains, emergency shower and fire exit routes.
6. You must wear approved safety goggles while performing experiments in a laboratory. This is a state law. Persons in close proximity to such hazards must also wear goggles. There will be no exceptions.
7. Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverages.
8. You must tie back long hair and restrict bulky clothes when you are working in the laboratory.
9. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the instructor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.
10. If a chemical is spilled or splashed onto you, it must be washed and diluted with water as soon as possible. **CALL YOUR INSTRUCTOR FOR HELP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
11. Do not point the open end of a test tube being heated at you or anyone else.
12. Always dilute acids by pouring the concentrated acid into water. Otherwise the heat generated may cause the water to vaporize quickly and produce splattering of the acid.
13. **ALL SPILLS AND DRIPS MUST BE CLEANED UP IMMEDIATELY.** Rinse them with plenty of water and clean up with paper towels. This is especially important when reagents have been dripped on dispensing bottles you will be handling. Consult your instructor for cleaning procedures.
14. Never put your face directly over a container to smell its contents. Use your hand to fan (waft) the odor to your nose.
15. Always wear a laboratory apron to protect your clothing from corrosive liquids.
16. **DO NOT PUT ANY SOLIDS IN THE SINK.** Only paper products should be placed in the wastebasket. All other materials: glass, metal pieces, precipitates and matches should be placed in the assigned disposal containers.
17. **READ ALL LABELS CAREFULLY AND READ THEM TWICE.** Many chemicals have very similar names and formulas. Using the wrong chemical could result in a dangerous reaction. Report any unlabeled containers to your instructor.
18. **NEVER RETURN UNUSED PORTIONS TO THE STOCK BOTTLE.** This could cause inadvertent contamination and produce incorrect observations by other students. This requires you to plan ahead and be conservative.
19. Do not heat graduated cylinders or bottles. These are not Pyrex (heat resistant) and will break. Likewise, test tubes will break if heated above the liquid level. Always apply the flame intermittently on the glassware until it is hot.
20. Graduated cylinders are **ONLY FOR MEASURING LIQUIDS.** Do not mix chemicals or perform chemical reactions in them.
21. Don't pick up broken glass with your fingers. Use tongs or a dustpan and broom.
22. Do not allow experiments to run unattended. Likewise, do not leave a Bunsen burner lit if not in use.
23. Notify your instructor when you recognize any hazardous or unsafe conditions, such as defects in electrical equipment, leaking containers and sharp edges or cracks in glassware.

24. Read each assigned lab experiment before coming to the lab. If your teacher assigns a pre-lab activity, it must be completed before you will be permitted to work in the lab.
25. Handle all living organisms used in a laboratory activity in a humane manner. Preserved biological materials are to be treated with respect and disposed of properly.
26. Treat all microorganisms as if they were harmful. Use antiseptic procedures, as directed by your instructor, when working with microbes. Dispose of microbes as your instructor directs.
27. When using knives and other sharp instruments, always carry with tips and points pointing down and away. Always cut away from your body. Never try to catch falling sharp instruments. Grasp sharp instruments only by the handles.
28. When working with electrical devices your hands must always be dry.
29. When connecting any electrical device to an outlet use one hand. The 2nd hand must be free and have no contact with objects surrounding you.
30. Do not plug too many different appliances into one socket.
31. Never use long extension cords to plug in an electrical device.
32. During an experiment use allowed voltages only. NO HIGH VOLTAGE
33. You are responsible for the rules listed in this contract. You must achieve a minimum of 90% score on the lab safety test.

I _____ (student's name) have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to insure my own safety, and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I am aware that any violation of this safety contract that results in unsafe conduct in the laboratory or misbehavior on my part indicates my willingness to forfeit my grade on that experiment. I am also aware that repeated violations that affect the safety of my classmates or me will result in appropriate discipline measures.

Student Signature

Date

Do you wear contact lenses? ☐ yes ☐ no

Are you color blind? ☐ yes ☐ no

Any food allergies? ☐ yes ☐ no

ef ges: List:

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom/laboratory environment.

With the cooperation of the instructors, parents, and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent, and correct possible hazards.

You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any laboratory work. Please read the list of safety rules above. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher.

Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this Student Safety Contract, are aware of the measures taken to insure the safety of your son/daughter in the science laboratory, and will instruct your son/daughter to uphold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Return one signed copy to your instructor. The second copy should be placed in your notebook.