

Chemistry Safety Guidelines and Contract

The Lab Safety Quiz will be
Thursday, August 5th.

PURPOSE

Science is a hands-on laboratory class. You will be doing many laboratory activities which require the use of hazardous chemicals. 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 in this student safety contract. These rules must be followed at all times. The acknowledgment sheet must be signed by both you and a parent or guardian before you can participate in the laboratory. Any questions by the student or parent should be addressed to the teacher before this contract is signed. Lab activities may be videotaped to encourage safe practices.

GENERAL RULES

1. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. If you do not understand a direction or part of a procedure, ask the instructor before proceeding.
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 eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food/drinks.
4. Never fool around in the laboratory. Horseplay, practical jokes, and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.
5. Bring only your laboratory instructions, worksheets, and/or reports to the work area. Other materials (books, purses, backpacks, etc.) should be stored in the classroom area.
6. Know the locations and operating procedures of all safety equipment including the first aid kit, eyewash station, safety shower, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket. Know where the fire alarm and the exits are located.
7. Dispose of all chemical waste properly. Never mix chemicals in sink drains. Sinks are to be used only for water and those solutions designated by the instructor. Solid chemicals, metals, matches, filter paper, and all other insoluble materials are to be disposed of in the proper waste containers, not in the sink. Check the label of all waste containers twice before adding your chemical waste to the container.
8. Keep hands away from face, eyes, mouth and body while using chemicals or preserved specimens. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments. Clean all work surfaces and apparatus at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
9. Experiments must be personally monitored at all times. You will be assigned a laboratory station at which to work. Do not wander around the room, distract other students, or interfere with the laboratory experiments of others.

CLOTHING

10. Any time chemicals, heat, or glassware are used, students will wear laboratory goggles. There will be no exceptions!
11. Goggles must be worn during all phases of the lab including set-up, cleanup and everything in between. If you have glasses, goggles must be worn over them. Contact lenses may be worn in the laboratory ONLY with non-directly vented chemical splash goggles. Certain solvent liquids and vapors may cause the contact to fuse to the eye. It is the student's responsibility to inform the teacher if he/she is wearing contacts during the lab.

12. Dress properly during a laboratory activity. 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. It is recommended to bring an old pair of shoes to keep at school in the event that sandals are inadvertently worn on a lab day.
13. Lab aprons or lab coats have been provided for your use and should be worn during laboratory activities.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

14. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the instructor immediately, even if “trivial.”
15. If a chemical splashes 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

16. All chemicals in the laboratory are to be considered dangerous. Do not touch, taste, or smell any chemicals unless specifically instructed to do so. The proper technique for smelling chemical fumes will be demonstrated to you.
17. Check the label on chemical bottles twice before removing any of the contents. Take only as much chemical as you need. Make sure chemical bottles are always pointed away from you.
18. Never return unused chemicals to their original containers.
19. Never dispense flammable liquids anywhere near an open flame or source of heat.
20. Never remove chemicals or other materials from the laboratory area.

HANDLING GLASSWARE AND EQUIPMENT

21. Never handle broken glass with your bare hands. Notify your teacher, and he/she will clean up the pieces.
22. When removing an electrical plug from its socket, grasp the plug, not the electrical cord. Hands must be completely dry before touching an electrical switch, plug, or outlet.
23. Examine glassware before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glassware. Never use dirty glassware.
24. Do not immerse hot glassware in cold water; it may shatter.

HEATING SUBSTANCES

25. Exercise extreme caution when using a gas burner. Take care that hair, clothing and hands are a safe distance from the flame at all times. Do not put any substance into the flame unless specifically instructed to do so. Never reach over an exposed flame. Light gas burners only as instructed by the teacher.
26. Never leave a lit burner unattended. Never leave anything that is being heated or is visibly reacting unattended. Always turn the burner or hot plate off when not in use.
27. You will be instructed in the proper method of heating and boiling liquids in test tubes. Do not point the open end of a test tube being heated at yourself or anyone else.
28. Heated metals and glass remain very hot for a long time. They should be set aside to cool and picked up with caution. Use tongs or heat-protective gloves if necessary.
29. Never look into a container that is being heated.
30. Hot and cold glass have the same visual appearance. Determine if an object is hot by bringing the back of your hand close to it prior to grasping it.

Safety Contract Acknowledgement

Student Name: _____

Please return this signed form to your teacher on Thursday, August 5th.

QUESTIONS

Do you wear contact lenses?

_____ YES _____ NO

List any other medical conditions of which the teacher should be aware.

Are you color blind?

_____ YES _____ NO

Do you have allergies?

_____ YES _____ NO

If so, list specific allergies:

AGREEMENT

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 ensure 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, may result in being removed from the laboratory, detention, receiving a failing grade, and/or dismissal from the course.

Student Signature

Date

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 ensure 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. Please be aware that parents will be notified in the event of an accident in the lab. Generally, these accidents are minor in nature but we want you to be aware of any accidents in the lab.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date