



Name: _____
TA/Class: _____

STUDENT LAB SAFETY RULES

(to be printed and kept in your binder all year)

Your personal safety and the safety of those around you depend upon the care with which you follow some general rules for safety in the laboratory.

The best way to handle accidents is to prevent them!



1. Know the location and use of the: fire extinguisher, eye wash station (Take out contact lenses first!), fire blanket, first aid kit.
2. Before performing any experiment, **read through the experiment, and all safety precautions.** Listen carefully to your teacher's instructions.
3. All experiments must have teacher approval before beginning. **Do NOT start the lab until the teacher says so.**
4. When working at your lab station, talk quietly with your group members. **Do NOT visit with other groups.** Keep all movement to a minimum when performing a lab.
5. When the **teacher asks for your attention you MUST STOP** what you are doing and listen **IMMEDIATELY**- the teacher should not have to ask more than once for your attention. In an emergency situation, remain at your station unless directed otherwise. **Do NOT crowd** around a hazard area
6. Notify the teacher of **ANY** accident, no matter how minor the accident seems to you.
7. Report any broken or cracked glassware to the teacher. Put all broken glass in the proper glass container, NOT in a regular garbage can.
8. Wear protective clothing when necessary. (lab coat/apron, safety glasses, gloves). Do NOT touch chemicals with your hands unless directed to do so.
9. There should be NO food, drink or gum in the lab! Also, **do NOT drink** from any container unless directed by your teacher. Do NOT taste chemicals, unless directed by the teacher.
10. Always keep your working area clean and uncluttered. Avoid spillage, but if you spill, clean it up immediately with water and paper towel (unless otherwise told by your teacher). Wipe up all spilled liquids or solids immediately. If you spill chemicals or acid on yourself, rinse IMMEDIATELY with water and then tell the teacher of the accident.
11. Appropriate clothing should be worn at all times in the lab. **Long hair must be tied back** & closed toed shoes must be worn at all times (*wear a hair elastic around your wrist for all science classes and have closed toed shoes available to change into— the teacher might not have told you ahead of time that you will be doing a lab that day, **always come prepared!***) Cotton or wool clothing is the best. Do not wear polyester clothing, long, loose sleeves/jewelry or a jacket in the lab.
12. Do NOT play with any equipment unless directed to by the teacher. This includes all digital media equipment. Do not put foreign objects into the sinks/electrical outlets or play with the taps.

13. No horseplay or fooling around will be tolerated. You will lose your lab privileges if you fool around.
14. Sitting and standing positions:
 - Do NOT sit on lab benches or on chairs during labs.
 - **Stand**, with chairs /stools under the bench or desk, especially when handling chemicals and equipment. All chairs should be pushed in and books placed on the seat of the chair to avoid accidents. Only lab papers should be on the desks.
15. Do NOT smell or breathe in chemical vapors directly. Instead, fan the vapor (waft) toward you by sweeping your hand over the top of the container.
16. Read the labels on all bottles carefully before removing the material. Failure to do so could result in a serious accident if the wrong chemical is used.
17. Never carry supply bottles to your station. Instead measure out the amount of material you need into another container to take to your station. Do NOT return unused materials to their supply bottle. Instead, discard into the garbage or sink. Never discard matches, filter paper, or any insoluble materials into the sink (our sinks get clogged and then we can't do labs☹️!)
18. Use only Pyrex glassware (heat-resistant) when heating substances. When heating anything, keep hands and clothing away from the heat source (flame or hot plate/burner). Allow ample time for hot glass to cool before cleaning and putting away. Remember that hot glass looks like cool glass. When heating a substance in a test tube, hold the test tube at a 45-degree angle and pointing away from people and keep the test tube moving over the heat source. Never look into a test tube that is being heated, substances can explode out of the top and get on you!
19. Acid can burn clothes/ skin and even paper if spilled. Always pour acid into water to avoid a chemical explosion. **A → Z**
20. When pouring a liquid, pour down the side of a glass-stirring rod. Liquids should always be stirred or mixed with a stirring rod and not thermometers, scoopulas, etc.
21. Scoopulas, forceps (tweezers) and spatulas (measuring spoons) are provided for the handling and dispensing of dry chemicals.
22. **LAB CLEAN-UP must occur promptly and efficiently. At the end of the lab, clean all equipment and return to its designated spot in the lab. The teacher is NOT your maid or custodian! Clean up when told to do so- - - do NOT continue working.**
23. **Make sure you wash your hands and lab counter/desk thoroughly before leaving a lab.**

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE RULES AND SAFEGAURDS COULD RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING ASKED TO QUIT THE LAB AND SIT DOWN. THESE RULES AND SAFEGUARDS ARE MEANT TO PROTECT BOTH YOU AND YOUR CLASS MATES.

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