

LAB SAFETY CONTRACT

RIVERDALE SCHOOL

General Guidelines

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory.
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. 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.
4. 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 (with detergent), rinse, and wipe dry all work surfaces (including the sink) and apparatus at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
5. Never return unused chemicals to their original containers.
6. When transferring reagents from one container to another, hold the containers away from your body.
7. Never remove chemicals or other materials from the laboratory area.
8. Carry glass tubing, especially long pieces, in a vertical position to minimize the likelihood of breakage and injury.
9. Never handle broken glass with your bare hands. Use a brush and dustpan to clean up broken glass. Place broken or waste glassware in the designated glass disposal container.
10. 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.
11. Examine glassware before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glassware. Never use dirty glassware.
12. Report damaged electrical equipment immediately. Look for things such as frayed cords, exposed wires, and loose connections. Do not use damaged electrical equipment.
13. If you do not understand how to use a piece of equipment, ask the instructor for help.
14. Do not immerse hot glassware in cold water; it may shatter.
15. 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.
16. Never look into a container that is being heated.
17. Do not place hot apparatus directly on the laboratory desk. Always use an insulating pad. Allow plenty of time for hot apparatus to cool before touching it.
18. Handle living creatures with care and be sure to treat them ethically. Even though we are experimenting with them we are not going to torture or kill in the name of Science. Destroying of living things will be handled humanely. We will only dissect preserved specimens ordered for that purpose.

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 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, may result in being removed from the laboratory and receiving a failing grade.

Student Signature

Parent's Signature

Date _____