

Safety Expectations for Science Classes

Laboratory and field investigations are important parts of the science learning experience. In your Science classes, you will have the opportunity to perform chemical experiments, to collect and examine specimens from the outdoors, to explore tiny organisms under the microscope, and to test and time your own actions and those of everyday objects under differing physical conditions.

Because many of our investigations require students to work with chemicals, hot plates, glassware, and/or expensive equipment, it is essential that all students follow our safety rules at all times. Failure to comply with safety regulations will result in consequences, up to and including expulsion from the lab.

Our general safety contract is reprinted below, along with some special regulations for Chemistry classes. You and your parent / guardian will be expected to become familiar with these regulations and agree to them.

Each individual class may have additional regulations. For example, students in classes that collect data outdoors will be expected to wear appropriate outerwear, treat organisms and their environs carefully, and stay with their teachers at all times.

Student Name _____ Period _____

ARHS Science Department
General Safety Rules and Expectations

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. All students must be supervised while working in a science classroom.
3. When first entering a science classroom, do not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials until you are instructed to do so.
4. Use laboratory tools and equipment only as directed by your instructor.
5. Do not eat food or drink beverages (other than water) in a science classroom. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverages.
6. Perform only those experiments authorized by the instructor.
7. Never fool around in the laboratory. Throwing objects, pushing, running, shouting, practical jokes, pranks, and other forms of horseplay are dangerous and prohibited.
8. Work areas should be kept clean and tidy at all times. At the end of the class period, return all equipment to its proper location and dispose of materials as directed by your instructor.
9. Keep aisles clear of belongings. Push your chair under the desk when not in use.
10. 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 and be familiar with all evacuation procedures.
11. Know what to do if there is a fire drill during a laboratory period; containers must be closed, and fume hoods, gas valves, and hot plates must be turned off before leaving the room.
12. Students are not allowed in the chemical stockroom or prep room under any circumstances.
13. Be alert and proceed with caution at all times in the laboratory. Notify the instructor immediately of any unsafe conditions you observe.
14. Monitor your experiments at all times. Do not wander around the room, distract other students, or interfere with the laboratory experiments of others.
15. Dress properly during a laboratory activity. Long hair must be tied back and dangling jewelry and loose or baggy clothing must be secured. Shoes must be worn at all times.
16. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the instructor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.
17. Wear required safety equipment at all times.

ARHS Science Department
Chemistry Safety Rules and Expectations

18. Safety goggles are **required** during any experiments that involve heat, glassware, or chemicals. There are no exceptions to this rule!
19. Read labels carefully! Check the label on chemical bottles twice before removing any of the contents. Take only as much chemical as you need.
20. Never return unused chemicals to their original containers.
21. Your instructor will give you instructions for chemical disposal after each experiment. NEVER pour a chemical down the drain without your instructor's permission.
22. Examine glassware carefully before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glassware.
23. Keep hands away from face, eyes, mouth, and body while using chemicals. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments.
24. If a chemical splashes in your eye(s) immediately flush with running water from the eyewash station for at least 15-20 minutes. **Notify your teacher immediately.**
25. All chemicals in the laboratory are to be considered dangerous. Do not touch, taste, or smell any chemicals unless instructed to do so.
26. Never remove any chemicals, glassware, or other lab equipment from the classroom.
27. Please inform your teacher if you have any allergies. You may list them in the space below:

Allergies:

I 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 am aware that any violation of this safety contract that results in unsafe conduct may result in the following consequences:

- Conference with teacher and contact with parent/guardian
- Zero credit given for the laboratory assignment
- Referral to the Dean for disciplinary consequences
- For serious offenses, removal from lab for the rest of the trimester

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature