

Laboratory Safety Rules
Mrs. Smith

Everyone is Responsible!!!

- **“I didn’t mean to”** and **“It wasn’t my fault”** are two statements that have no place in lab. If someone is hurt or equipment is broken, these statements cannot undo the harm.
- **Horseplay will not be tolerated.** If it occurs, those involved will be disqualified from the lab and given a **zero** for the assignment. **There will be NO exceptions!**
- **Lack of pre-lab preparations** is the main threat to safety in your lab. If you and your group are unprepared, you will be unsure of yourself, waste time, and have a good chance of making a mistake that leads to a problem.
- At the beginning of each lab period, you will be given a chance to ask questions. If you are unsure of some procedure, now is the time to ask. Always pay close attention to any verbal instructions given at this time.

What to Do and What Not to Do in Lab!!!

- **No** eating or drinking of any kind is permitted in the lab area.
- Safety glasses **MUST BE WORN** in the lab area.
 - ♠ Safety glasses are stored in _____
 - ♠ Other protected clothing, such as gloves and aprons, will be instructed when to wear by the teacher.
- Contact lenses should **NOT** be worn in the lab.
 - ♠ It is almost impossible to remove contacts after chemicals have been splashed into the eyes. Chemicals trapped under contacts will damage the eye even more than normal.
- Long hair and bulky clothing are dangerous in the lab.
 - ♠ **Why?** _____
- Rings, watches, and jewelry are dangerous in the lab.
 - ♠ **Why?** _____
- Shoe Apparel
 - ♠ **Type?** _____
- Smell chemicals only when directed to do so.
 - ♠ **How?** _____
- Never point the open end of a test tube being heated at yourself or others.

- Keep chemicals, beakers, flasks, etc. away from the edges of the lab table to prevent them from falling to the floor and breaking.
- Use tongs, test-tube holders, or pot holders to handle **hot laboratory equipment**. Allow plenty of time for glassware to cool before handling.

Accidents Can Happen!

- **Remain calm!** A minor problem quickly becomes a major one if you don't report all accidents immediately, no matter how small. No one will be in trouble!

- **Types of Accidents and How to Handle Them:**

A. Broken glass:

- If glassware is broken, stop where you are. **DO NOT USE**. Report the breakage to the teacher. Do not move until the teacher says that it is safe to do so.
- If anyone is cut, report it **IMMEDIATELY!**
- The teacher will collect the broken glass **NOT** you!

B. Cuts and Scrapes:

- Do **NOT** come in contact with another person's blood.
- Report the situation to the teacher and let the teacher help the injured person.

C. Chemical Spills:

- You are to treat **ALL** chemicals spills as dangerous!
- Stop where you are and let your teacher advise you on what to do.

D. Fire:

- When you are **NOT** heating something—turn the burner **OFF!!!**
- Avoid paper fires—take only your lab sheet to your station. If a paper fire occurs: push the paper into the lab sink and turn on the water.
- If you or someone catches his or her hair or clothing on fire:
 - ♠ **Don't panic!!**
 - ♠ Stay where you are—help is coming.
 - ♠ Where is the fire blanket? _____
 - ♠ **STOP, DROP, & ROLL**
 - ♠ **Never wrap a standing student in the fire safety blanket.**
 - ♠ **Why?** _____
 - _____
- ♠ If the fire is not at your lab station—**STAY AWAY!!!**

Lab Safety Equipment:

• **Eye Wash Station:**

- ♠ Where is it? _____
- ♠ The station should only be used if chemicals come in contact with the eyes. Eyelids have to be forced open. Flood eyes and eyelids with water for **minimum of 15 minutes**.

• **Safety Shower:**

- ♠ Where is it? _____
- ♠ Use the shower only in the event that large amounts of chemicals are spilled or splashed onto the skin or clothing.

• **Fire Extinguisher:**

- ♠ Where is it? _____
- ♠ How do you operate? _____

- ♠ **Only the teacher is allowed to use the fire extinguisher.**
- ♠ How do you contain a **small** fire at your lab table? _____

• **Sprinkler System:**

- ♠ Sprinklers are located throughout the lab area and are automatically activated.

Lab Clean-up:

- Clean-up is important for the safety of others and for the preservation of equipment!

What Clean-up Should Be Done After Each Lab:

- **Always** dispose of chemicals according to teacher's instructions!
- **NEVER** put unused chemicals back into their original container!
- Return chemical containers to the teacher's lab cart/table.
- Wash and dry all glassware, then store properly
- Clean and dry your lab table.
- **Wash your hands and forearms after each lab!**