

SAFETY IN THE SCIENCE CLASSROOM

Why should I be concerned about safety in my classroom?

- Science is a verb!
- The best method for creating an atmosphere of learning in science is through hands-on investigations.
- As the classroom teacher, I am legally bound to provide a safe environment for my students.
- The possibility of injury to students is greatly reduced by proper surveillance, a well-managed classroom, and a comprehensive safety program incorporated into the science curriculum.

SAMPLE SAFETY RULES/GUIDELINES

(The contract portion of this form **MUST** be signed by you and your parents **AND** returned to me **BEFORE** you will be allowed to participate in a laboratory experience.)

- Do **NOT** touch any lab equipment until you are given instructions.
- There will be **NO** horseplay in the science classroom.
- Wash your hands after each laboratory period. Use the proper sink.
- Never taste, touch, smell, or eat any chemical. Never use the lab equipment as a container for food or drink.
- Follow the specific rules of each lab investigation.
- Make sure that flames are extinguished before leaving a lab station. Never **LEAVE** a burning flame.
- Smell the contents of a test tube or other container, when directed, by waving your hand over the opening toward your nose.
- Wear your aprons, when directed. Keep them tied behind your back.
- Long hair must always be tied behind your back when using a heat source.
- Wear your goggles unless you are told you do not need them. You are always to wear them when you are heating, hammering, and using chemicals.
- Never point a test tube at yourself or another person, especially when heating. Never heat a closed container and never look directly into a test tube.
- Never use cracked or broken glassware. Give it to the teacher for replacement.
- Follow the directions for proper disposal of wastes. Certain substances **CANNOT** go down the drain.
- Hot glassware looks the same as cool glassware. Use care when handling hot glassware.
- Wipe up spilled chemicals with a wet cloth or paper towels.
- Do **NOT** use chemicals from unmarked containers.
- Do **NOT** perform unauthorized experiments.
- Use all materials in a conservative way. Do not waste chemicals, paper towels, matches, water, or any other laboratory supplies.
- During lab, keep your voices low.
- Report any accidents or spills to the teacher immediately!
- Show me that you are dependable by following these lab rules. Experiments in the science laboratory are fun, but I must be able to trust you and your work.

STUDENT/PARENT SAFETY CONTRACT



I, _____, have read and agree to abide by the safety regulations set forth above. I will also adhere to any additional printed or verbal instructions provided by the teacher and/or district. I am also aware that anytime I create a disturbance in class that might endanger others, I will be removed from the laboratory activity and temporarily given alternative assignments.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY NUMBERS _____
