



Lab Safety Rules

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During the school year you will participate in several lab activities. During lab, each student's actions can affect the safety of others more so than in any other classroom environment. It is important that the safety rules below are followed at all times.

LAB SAFETY RULES

1. Do **NOT** touch any equipment, chemicals, or other lab materials until instructed to do so.
2. Follow the teacher's verbal and written instructions carefully. If in doubt, ask for help.
3. Know the location of the safety and first aid equipment and how to use them.
4. Wear proper eye protection at all times during lab activities, when needed.
5. Keep your hands away from your face, eyes, and mouth while using chemicals or preserved specimens.
6. Confine or securely tie hair that reaches to your shoulders. Remember hair is very flammable!
7. Do **NOT** eat, drink, or chew gum during lab activities. Never taste anything during lab activities unless specifically instructed to do so by your teacher. No chemicals are ever to be taken from the lab activities.
8. Do only the activities assigned and in the manner prescribed. Unauthorized experiments are prohibited.
9. Never engage in horseplay or practical jokes.
10. Footwear that completely covers the foot is highly recommended. Footwear, at the very least, should be hard-soled sandals.
11. Avoid inhaling chemical fumes; avoid filling pipets by using your mouth; consider **ALL** chemicals dangerous unless it is known that they are not.
12. The teacher is to be notified immediately in the event of an accident, faulty equipment, or safety concerns; no matter how trivial it may appear.
13. Notify the teacher immediately of any spills on your clothing.
14. Do **NOT** use the sinks to discard solids; remove trash from the sink screens when finished.
15. Do not return chemicals to their original containers unless you are specifically instructed to do so. Practice only taking what you need.
16. Never point the open end of a test tube being heated at yourself or others.
17. Always add acid to water (AA). This is particularly true of concentrated sulfuric acid.
18. Handle all living organisms used in a humane manner. All materials are to be treated with care and respect.
19. Wash and dry all glassware and equipment, return all materials, and tidy up and wipe down your work space when finished.
20. Wash your hands with soap and water before returning to your seat or leaving the classroom.

Above all else, lab activities are designed to enhance learning. Practical jokes, horseplay, loud talking or loud noises, unusual motions, not keeping one's mind on one's work, being unprepared, leaving your assigned lab area and generally not taking the lab activity seriously are dangerous and unproductive behaviors. Such behaviors will result in removal from the classroom, a zero on your lab activity, and additional consequences if necessary.