

High School Science Safety Code of Conduct

General Safety Rules:

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times when in the science laboratory.
2. Backpacks, jackets, books, water bottles, etc. need to be put away before starting a lab activity. Only lab materials, instructions, lab notebook, and a writing implement should be on a lab table.
3. Listen carefully to the teacher's instructions. If you do not understand a direction or part of a procedure, ask for help.
4. Never do anything in the laboratory that is not called for in the laboratory procedures or by your instructor.
5. Do not touch any equipment or lab materials until instructed to do so. Use materials only as instructed.
6. Know where lab safety equipment is located and how to use each item (eye wash, safety shower, fire extinguisher, fire blanket, first aid kit).
7. Know where emergency exits are located.
8. No food or beverages are allowed in the laboratory. Do not taste lab materials.
9. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverages.
10. Keep your hands away from face, eyes, or mouth while using science materials.
11. Use two hands to carry a microscope- one hand under the base, the other on the arm.
12. Treat preserved specimens with respect and dispose of properly.
13. Use safety precautions when using sharp tools, such as scalpels and scissors. Keep sharp objects pointed away from you when transporting or using.
14. Stay out of storage area unless teacher instructs you otherwise.
15. Stay at your assigned lab station. Do not wander around the room and disrupt other lab groups.
16. If your lab involves work with live animals (including insects), wear gloves and handle animals with care. Notify teacher right away of any bites, scratches, etc.
17. Follow any teacher directions given for any specific materials or equipment.

Science Safety Attire:

18. Be prepared for lab work. No loose or baggy clothing, sandals, flip-flops or high heels. Tie long hair back.
19. Wear safety glasses/ goggles as instructed, and anytime chemicals, heat, and/or glassware is used.
20. Use an apron/lab coat when instructed by the teacher.

Accidents and Injuries:

21. Notify the teacher right away if any accident, injury or dangerous condition, and wait for teacher instructions before proceeding. This includes spills and broken glass.
22. If a chemical splashes in your eye(s) or onto your skin, immediately flush the area with running water from eyewash station or safety shower for at least 20 minutes, and have someone notify your teacher immediately.

Chemical Handling:

23. Always follow the teacher's directions when using chemicals or other substances.



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Updated: 9/7/2021

24. Do not touch, taste, or smell chemicals.
25. Never remove chemicals or materials from the lab area.
26. Take only as much chemical as you need.
27. Do not return unused chemicals to their original containers. Follow the teacher's directions on how to dispose of unused chemicals.
28. Do not dispense of flammable liquids near an open flame or source of heat.
29. Use fume hood as directed by the teacher.

Handling Glassware:

30. Handle all glassware with care.
31. Inspect glassware for chips and cracks before use and report any damages to the teacher immediately.
32. Use a hot pad or tongs to pick up hot glassware.
33. If glass breaks, notify your teacher for instructions before cleaning it up.

Heating Substances

34. Use heat source only as instructed.
35. Never touch a flame or leave a hot plate or lit lamp unattended.
36. Point the open end of a heated test tube away from yourself and others.
37. Use extreme caution when you are using a gas burner and ensure that your hair, clothing, and hands are a safe distance from flame at all times.

Clean Up

38. Follow your teacher's instructions for cleanup and on where to put waste materials.
39. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments.
40. Ensure that your area has been properly cleaned up and that materials have been returned, etc. as directed by the teacher.

