

Lenoir City High School

Science Safety Rules

PURPOSE: Our science class is a place where discovery leads to knowledge and understanding. It is also a place where caution is essential for your safety and the safety of others. Your knowledge of safe laboratory practice is important in avoiding accidents. The following rules will provide a safe enjoyable learning experience for everyone.

1. **I WILL ALWAYS act in a responsible manner.** Horseplay, reckless behavior (i.e. running, pushing, throwing, roaming, or interfering with others), and practical jokes are prohibited.
2. I WILL NEVER deface any equipment, material, furniture or other feature of the classroom.
3. I WILL NEVER use the computer in an inappropriate or unauthorized way. Violations will result in suspended computer privileges.
4. I WILL NEVER perform a lab investigation alone or touch any equipment or material (including gas, electric, or faucets) without permission.
5. **I WILL ALWAYS follow written and verbal instructions** and perform only labs that have been authorized. I will ask the teacher for assistance if I do not understand.
6. I WILL NEVER bring food, beverages, gum, candy or cosmetics into the lab.
7. I WILL ALWAYS be prepared and read all procedures before the lab begins.
8. I WILL ALWAYS keep the lab area clean, free of all personal belongings, and all aisles clear.
9. I WILL ALWAYS know the location and operation of safety equipment (fire extinguisher), emergency procedures (turn off gas valves, unplug electric equipment) and fire drill exits.
10. I WILL ALWAYS dispose of waste materials properly and never use the sink for waste.
11. I WILL ALWAYS return all equipment and clean my lab station before I leave.
12. I WILL ALWAYS wash my hands with soap and water before I leave the lab.
13. I WILL ALWAYS transport materials carefully.
14. I WILL ALWAYS notify my teacher of any medical condition prior to working in the lab.

INJURY

15. **I WILL ALWAYS report any and all accidents, spills, or injuries to the teacher immediately.**
16. I WILL ALWAYS run water over any area that has come in contact with chemicals (eyes, skin) and notify the teacher immediately.

CLOTHING

17. **I WILL ALWAYS wear goggles.** No exceptions.
18. I WILL ALWAYS wear gloves and/or lab aprons when instructed.

19. I WILL NEVER wear contact lenses in the lab.
20. I WILL ALWAYS dress properly for the laboratory. Loose jewelry, baggy or bulky clothing, shirts with loose-fitting sleeves, tank tops, and open-toed shoes are not permitted. I will always tie long hair back.

CHEMICALS

21. **I WILL NEVER taste any lab materials** even if I know what they are or touch a chemical with bare hands. I will never smell a chemical directly. I will always waft the vapor to my nose.
22. I WILL ALWAYS take the amount needed and never return unused chemicals to the container.
23. I WILL ALWAYS handle flammable chemicals carefully and away from open flames.

EQUIPMENT

24. I WILL NEVER remove equipment, chemicals, or other materials from the laboratory area.
25. I WILL ALWAYS notify the teacher of broken, chipped or cracked glassware.
26. I WILL ALWAYS use care in handling electric equipment: check for frayed cords and loose connections, not touch equipment with wet hands, and secure cords to prevent trip hazards.

HEAT

27. I WILL NEVER reach over an open flame or hot plate or leave a lab station unattended when a substance is heating or visibly reacting.
28. I WILL ALWAYS point test tubes away from myself and others when I am heating them and never look into a container that is being heated.
29. I WILL ALWAYS handle hot objects carefully and know that hot and cold objects look alike.

BIOLOGICAL

30. I WILL ALWAYS handle living or preserved organisms respectfully, use them for education purposes only and dispose of dissected organisms in an ethical manner.
31. I WILL ALWAYS carry sharp instruments by the handle with points facing down and make cuts away from my body.
32. I WILL ALWAYS handle dissection instruments with great care, store in a safe position when not in use and dispose of used blades properly.
33. **These rules apply to all labs all of the time.**