

E.C.I.S.D. Middle School Science Safety Rules

PURPOSE:

Science class in middle school is intended for students ages 11– 15. Science class is a hands-on laboratory class. Performing labs is a very important part of involving students in the scientific process. However, some activities may have potential hazards. If students do not follow the rules they put themselves and others at risk. Some equipment and some labs that students will be allowed to perform may be dangerous if students do not follow the rules at **ALL** times. To verify that students have been taught science safety standards no middle school science student in E.C.I.S.D. will be allowed to participate in science lab activities until they have passed the district middle school science safety test with a 90 or better. Also, a science safety contract must be signed by the student and a parent or legal guardian. It is E.C.I.S.D.'s goal to give students the best possible science education while insuring ALL students have a safe environment in which to learn.

GENERAL SAFETY RULES:

1. When entering the science lab area do not touch any equipment, supplies, or other materials unless given permission to do so by the teacher.
2. Playing around, practical jokes, and pranks will not be tolerated in the science room. You need to always conduct yourself with the safety of others in mind.
3. Follow all instructions given by the teacher, written or verbal. If you do not understand an instruction raise your hand and ask for help.
4. Never perform an unauthorized experiment and never perform any experiment when the teacher is out of the room.
5. Bring **ONLY** your lab instructions/ worksheet and pencil to the lab. **NO** backpacks or personal items are allowed in the science lab area.
6. Keep your workspace at the lab table and the science room clean and neat. Part of your grade is the responsibility of keeping the lab area clean.
7. **NEVER** eat, drink, chew gum or taste anything in the science room unless your teacher gives you permission to do so.

EQUIPMENT:

8. Wash your hands with soap and water before you leave the science room. Do not touch your mouth, or face while working with **ANY** science materials.
 9. Check all equipment when it is first given to you. Report any broken or damaged equipment immediately to the teacher.
 10. Return **ALL** equipment clean and in working order at the end of the lab.
 11. Follow the teacher's instructions to dispose of any waste produced in an experiment.
 12. Report **ANY** accident, injury, or hazardous condition to the teacher immediately.
 13. **NEVER** remove chemicals, equipment, or animals from the science room without permission from the teacher.
 14. Know where the exits are and what to do in case of an emergency or fire drill.
 15. Students are never allowed in a storage/prep area unless the teacher is present.
 16. Never look inside an open container while it is heating and never heat a closed container.
1. Wear safety goggles when instructed. Never remove your goggles during an experiment once you are told to wear them. There is **NEVER** an exception to this rule.
 2. Dress properly for the lab: no objects should ever be dangling from around your neck or wrist, tie long hair back, no baggy clothing. Your jewelry should be placed in your own pocket. You do not hold items for other students.
 3. Wear aprons only when instructed to.
 4. Handle all glassware with care. Report all broken glassware immediately. Do not pick up broken glassware without permission from the teacher.
 5. Never put hot glassware into cold water. Do not handle hot glassware without instructions from the teacher on how to do so.
 6. Always carry a microscope with both hands. Hold the arm with one hand; place the other hand under the base.
 7. Leave all microscopes clean when finished with the lab.
 8. Handle all microscope slides carefully.
 9. Be extremely careful when handling any source of heat (matches, lighters, candles, hot plates, Bunsen burners).
 8. Know where all safety equipment in the science room is located. Know when and how it is to be used.

9. Use scalpels, scissors and other sharp instruments only as instructed. When cutting with a scalpel or knife **ALWAYS** cut away from your body.
10. Handle all preserved specimens and dissecting equipment with respect.
11. Wear gloves when handling preserved specimens.
12. Handle all animals in the science room with care and respect. Ask your teacher for permission and instructions on how to care for or handle any animal in the science room.
13. Handle electrical equipment carefully. Do not use equipment that has frayed wiring and do not touch electrical equipment with wet or damp hands.

CHEMICALS:

1. Consider **ALL** chemicals used in the science room to be dangerous. Do not touch or smell any chemicals unless instructed to do so.
2. Ask the teacher for the proper way to dispose of any chemical waste.
3. Never return unused chemicals to the storage container without the teacher's permission.
4. All chemicals should be properly labeled before you handle them.
5. When pouring chemicals use extreme care; always pour acids into water to prevent contact with skin or eyes.
6. Use only approved stirring rods for mixing liquid chemicals.
7. Never mix chemicals without the permission of the teacher.

VERIFICATION:

I, _____
(sign your name)
have read and understand all the above rules for my science classroom. Also, my teacher has verbally instructed me in proper lab and field safety techniques.

Please answer these important questions:

Do you wear contact lenses? _____

Are you color blind? _____

Do you have any allergies? _____

If so, list them: _____