

South McKeel 6th Grade Science Safety Rules

This school year your student will be involved in various science activities involving the use of laboratory equipment and other science-related materials. The list of general rules below was created to protect you as well as the other students in the science classroom during laboratory investigations and experiments.

General Rules:

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the science classroom and science laboratory.
2. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. Perform only those lab activities assigned by your teacher. **Unauthorized investigations and experiments are prohibited.**
3. Never do anything in the laboratory that is not called for by your teacher. If you do not understand a direction or procedure. Ask your instructor before proceeding.
4. Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverages.
5. Be prepared to work when you arrive in the lab. Familiarize yourself with the lab procedures before beginning the lab.
6. **Horseplay, practical jokes, and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.**
7. Work areas should be kept clean and tidy at all times. Bring only needed materials to the lab stations.
8. Know the locations and operating procedures of all safety equipment. Know where the fire alarm and exits are located.
9. Be alert and proceed with caution at all times in the laboratory. Notify the instructor immediately of any unsafe conditions you observe.
10. Labels and equipment instruction must be read carefully before use. Set up and use the prescribed apparatus as directed in the laboratory instructions or by your instructor.
11. Clean all work surfaces and apparatus at the end of the laboratory activity. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
12. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all laboratory activities.
13. Laboratory experiments and investigations must be personally monitored at all times. You will be assigned a lab station at which to work. **Do not wander around the room, distract other students, or interfere with the activities of others.**
14. Students are not permitted in the science storage cabinets or preparation areas unless given specific permission by their instructor.
15. Know what to do if there is a fire drill during a laboratory period: containers must be closed and electrical equipment must be turned off.
16. If you have a medical condition (e.g. allergies, diabetes, asthma. etc.) check with your physician prior to working in lab and notify the teacher.
17. Keep your hands away from your eyes, mouth, and nose while working with substances in the lab.
18. Anytime chemicals, heat or glassware are used, students will wear chemical splash and impact resistant goggles.
19. Dress properly for laboratory activities. Long hair, dangling jewelry, and loose or baggy clothing are a hazard. Long hair should be tied back and dangling jewelry and loose or baggy clothing must be secured. Shoes must completely cover the foot. No sandals or flip-flops are allowed in lab. Exceptions to this dress code are permissible for activities not involving heat, glass, sharp objects and/or chemicals.

20. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the instructor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.
21. If a chemical splashes in your eye(s) or on your skin, immediately flush with running for at least 20 minutes.
22. All substances in the laboratory are to be considered dangerous. Do not touch, taste or smell any substance unless specifically instructed to do so. The proper technique for smelling chemical fumes, wafting, will be demonstrated to you.
23. Check the label on chemical bottles twice before removing any of the contents. Take only as much chemical as you need.
24. Never return unused chemicals to their original containers.
25. Never use mouth suction to fill a pipette. Use a rubber bulb or pipette pump.
26. When transferring substances from one container to another, hold the containers away from your body.
27. Acids must be handled with extreme care. You will be shown the proper method for diluting strong acids.
28. Never remove chemicals or other materials from the laboratory area.
29. Take great care when transporting substances from one part of the laboratory to another. Hold them securely and walk carefully.
30. Never handle broken glass with your bare hands. Use a brush and dustpan to clean up broken glass. Place broken or waste glassware in the designated glass disposal container.
31. When removing an electrical plug from its socket, grasp the plug, not the cord. Hands must be completely dry before touching an electrical switch, plug, or outlet.
32. Examine glassware before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glassware. Never use dirty glassware.
33. Report damaged electrical equipment immediately. Look for things like frayed cords, exposed wires, and loose connections. Do not use damaged electrical equipment.
34. If you do not understand how to use a piece of equipment, ask the instructor for help.
35. Do not immerse hot glassware in cold water; it may shatter.
36. Heated metals and glass remain very hot for a long time. They should be set aside to cool and be picked up with caution. Use tongs or heat-protective gloves if necessary.
37. Never look into a container that is being heated.
38. Do not place hot apparatus directly on the laboratory desk. Always use an insulating pad. Allow plenty of time for hot apparatus to cool before touching it.
39. Be sure to use all sharp objects for their intended purpose.
40. Dispose of all chemical waste properly. Never mix chemicals in sink drains. Sinks are to be used only for water and those solutions designated by the instructor. Solid chemicals, metals, matches, filter paper and all other insoluble materials are to be disposed of in the proper waste containers and not the sink.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____