

## LABORATORY SAFETY CONTRACT

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Science is an active, hands-on process. Every precaution is taken to make the laboratory a safe place to work. However, because of the serious consequences of mistakes or carelessness, safety can only be assured by complete cooperation and compliance with instructions. To ensure a safe learning environment, all students will be instructed in science safety, take a science safety quiz, and both parents and students will sign this contract. Copies of the signed contract will be kept by the student, the parent/guardian, the teacher, and the school.

1. Students will act responsibly in the laboratory at all times. Running, horseplay, and pranks are unsafe and will result in removal from class and disciplinary action.
2. Students must follow all directions, both written and spoken about laboratory procedures, safety precautions, and cleaning up. Students will dispose of all waste materials according to the teacher's instructions.
3. Students will wear proper clothing in the lab according to the teacher's instructions. This may include safety goggles, lab aprons, or gloves. Shoulder length hair, loose sleeves, and dangling jewelry must be tied back when using open flames or high-speed motors. If laboratory work involves caustic, corrosive, or hot chemicals, shoes should be closed toed.
4. Students must not eat, drink, chew gum, or place anything in the mouth in labs where chemicals are being used. Tasting chemicals is forbidden, even if the chemical is edible.
5. Unauthorized experiments are prohibited. Students may not remove equipment or supplies from the lab unless authorized by the teacher.
6. Students will know the locations of safety equipment and emergency exits. Students will notify the teacher of any hazardous condition or damaged equipment. Students should work together to maintain a safe environment, but they must wait for direction from the teacher before correcting a hazardous situation.
7. Students will clean up after themselves. The workplace should remain neat and clutter free.
8. Students will use exceptional care when working with heat or electricity. Electrical appliances should only be handled with dry hands. Hot glassware should not come in contact with cold liquids. Open flames must never be left unattended. Heated items should be handled with appropriate apparatus (such as tongs or insulated gloves), never bare hands.
9. Students must adhere to all safety precautions concerning chemicals. Test tubes must be pointed away from others, especially when they are being heated. Always add acid to water rather than water to acid to prevent splashing of corrosive acid.
10. If the room must be evacuated, close all containers and turn off any gas jets, electrical appliances, and water sources (in that order).

By signing below, I understand and agree to follow all of the safety rules in this contract. I also understand that other safety rules may apply to specific classroom activities that are not listed in this contract. I will follow these rules as well and will follow common sense at all times. I am aware that any safety violation that results in unsafe conduct or misbehavior on my part may result in my removal from the classroom and/or further disciplinary action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent signature