

PUBLIC SCHOOL OF EDISON TOWNSHIP

SCIENCE SAFETY RULES

Learning Science is a hands-on activity. You will be doing many laboratory activities, which involve the use of chemicals and other materials that may be considered hazardous if not handled carefully. Safety in the science classroom is the #1 priority for students, teachers, and parents. To ensure a safe science classroom, a list of rules has been developed that must be followed at all times. Attached is a SAFETY CONTRACT verifying your understanding of the importance of these rules. It must be signed by both you and a parent or guardian before you can participate in laboratory activities. This copy of the rules is to be kept in your science notebook as a constant reminder of the need for laboratory safety.

GENERAL

1. When first entering a science area, do not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials in the laboratory area until you are instructed to do so.
2. Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverages.
3. Conduct yourself responsibly at all times in the laboratory area.
4. Be prepared for your work in the laboratory area. Read all procedures thoroughly before entering the laboratory area. Never fool around in the laboratory area. Horseplay, practical jokes, and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.
5. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. If you do not understand a direction or part of a procedure, ask the instructor before proceeding.
6. No student may work in the laboratory area without an instructor present.
7. Perform only those experiments authorized by the instructor. Never do anything in the laboratory area that is not called for in the laboratory procedures or by your instructor. Unauthorized experiments are prohibited.
8. Observe good housekeeping practices. Work areas should be kept clean and tidy at all times. Bring only your laboratory instructions, worksheets, and/or reports to the work area. Other materials (books, purses, backpacks, etc.) should be stored in the classroom area.
9. Keep aisles clear. Push your chair under the desk when not in use.
10. Know the locations and operating procedures of all safety equipment including

the first aid kit, eyewash station, safety shower, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket. Know where the fire alarm and the exits are located.

11. Be alert and proceed with caution at all times in the laboratory area. Notify the instructor immediately of any unsafe conditions you observe.
 12. Dispose of all chemical waste properly as instructed by your teacher.
 13. Labels and equipment instructions must be read carefully before use. Set up and use the prescribed apparatus as directed in the laboratory instructions or by your instructor.
 14. Keep hands away from face, eyes, mouth and body while using chemicals or preserved specimens.
 15. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments.
 16. Clean (with detergent), rinse, and wipe dry all work surfaces (including the sink) and apparatus at the end of the experiment.
 17. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
 18. Experiments must be personally monitored at all times. You will be assigned a laboratory station at which to work. Do not wander around the room, distract other students, or interfere with the laboratory experiments of other.
 19. Students are not permitted in the science storage rooms or preparation areas.
 20. Know what to do if there is a fire drill during a laboratory period; containers must be closed, gas valves turned off, and any electrical equipment turned off.
 21. Handle all living organisms used in a laboratory activity in a humane manner. Preserved biological materials are to be treated with respect and disposed of properly.
 22. When using knives and other sharp instruments, always carry with tips and points pointing down and away. Always cut away from your body. Never try to catch falling sharp instruments. Grasp sharp instruments only by the handles
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23. Any time chemicals, heat, or glassware is used, students shall wear approved laboratory goggles, unless otherwise directed by your instructor.
 24. Contact lenses should not be worn in the laboratory unless you have permission from your instructor.
 25. Dress safely during a laboratory activity. Long hair must be tied back. Dangling jewelry and loose or baggy clothing must be secured.