

## Environmental Science Safety Contract 2023-2024

Science is a hands-on laboratory class. You will be doing many laboratory activities that require the use of hazardous chemicals. 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 and provided to you in this student safety contract.

These rules must be followed at all times. You are responsible for knowing these rules. They are posted to both Google Classroom and my website for reference, but I would suggest downloading a copy to your ipad. **Both you and a parent or guardian must sign this copy before you can participate in the laboratory.**

### GENERAL SAFETY

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory.
2. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. If you do not understand a direction or part of a procedure, ask the instructor before proceeding.
3. Never work alone. No student may work the laboratory without an instructor present.
4. When first entering a science room, do not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials in the laboratory area until you are instructed to do so.
5. Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverages.
6. Perform only those experiments authorized by the instructor. Never do anything in the laboratory that is not called for in the laboratory procedures or by your instructor. Carefully follow all instructions, both written and oral.
7. Unauthorized experiments are prohibited.
8. Be prepared for your work in the laboratory. Read all procedures thoroughly before entering the laboratory.
9. Never fool around in the laboratory. Horseplay, practical jokes, and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.
10. 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.
11. Keep aisles clear. Push your chair under the desk when not in use.
12. Know the locations and operating procedures of all safety equipment including the first aid kit, eyewash station, safety shower, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket.
13. Know where the fire alarm and the exits are located. Always work in a well-ventilated area.
14. Be alert and proceed with caution at all times in the laboratory. Notify the instructor immediately of any unsafe conditions you observe.

15. 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, not in the sink.
16. 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.
17. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments.
18. Clean all work surfaces and apparatus at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
19. 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 others.
20. Students are never permitted in the science storage rooms or preparation areas unless given specific permission by their instructor.
21. Know what to do if there is a fire drill during a laboratory period; containers must be closed, gas valves turned off, fume hoods turned off, and any electrical equipment turned off.
22. When using knives and other sharp instruments, always carry with tips and points pointing down and away.
23. Always cut away from your body. Never try to catch falling sharp instruments. Grasp sharp instruments only by the handles.
24. Ensure that all hands, fingers, or other body parts are clear of any experiment before it is conducted.
25. Never point any equipment, light sources, lasers, or projectiles at anyone.
26. If you have a medical condition (e.g., allergies, pregnancy, etc.), check with your physician prior to working in lab.

#### CLOTHING

27. Any time chemicals, heat, glassware, or projectiles are used students will wear laboratory goggles. There will be no exceptions to this rule!
28. Dress properly during a laboratory activity. Long hair, dangling jewelry, and loose or baggy clothing are a hazard in the laboratory. Long hair must be tied-back and dangling jewelry and loose or baggy clothing must be secured. Shoes must completely cover the foot. No sandals allowed.

#### ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

29. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the instructor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.

30. If you or your lab partner is hurt, immediately yell out “Code one, Code one” to get the instructor’s attention.

31. If a chemical splashes in your eye(s) or on your skin, immediately flush with running water from the eyewash station or safety shower for at least 20 minutes. Notify the instructor immediately.

**QUESTIONS – PLEASE CIRCLE!**

32. Do you wear contact lenses? YES NO

33. Are you color blind? YES NO

34. Do you have allergies? YES NO If so, list specific allergies

**AGREEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (Student’s First and Last Name) have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to ensure my own safety, and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I am aware that any violation of this safety contract that results in unsafe conduct in the laboratory or misbehavior on my part, may result in being removed from the laboratory, detention, receiving a failing grade, and/or dismissal from the course.

I understand that I must receive a 100% on the safety quiz before I can participate in any laboratory activities.

Student Signature, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Nipmuc Science Departments feels that you should be informed regarding the school’s effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom/laboratory environment. With the cooperation of the instructors, parents, and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent, and correct possible hazards. You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any laboratory work. Please read the list of safety rules above. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher. Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this Student Safety Contract, are aware of the measures taken to ensure the safety of your child in the science laboratory, and will instruct your child to uphold their agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory.

Parent/Guardian Signature, Date: \_\_\_\_\_