

Physics Student Safety Contract

Physics is a hands-on laboratory class. At times you will perform experiments that present the possibility of injury if performed carelessly. For that reason, you must always perform your work in a safe manner. To ensure a safe laboratory, the following rules and procedures must be followed at all times. Before any student can enter the laboratory, this safety contract must be read, and the student and parent must sign the agreement.

Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times while in the laboratory. Horseplay, practical jokes, pranks, and throwing objects are dangerous to you and your classmates.

Never work alone while in the laboratory. A teacher must be present at all times.

Monitor your experiments at all times. You will be assigned a laboratory station. Do not wander around the room, distract other students, or interfere with the laboratory experiments of others.

Stay alert in the lab, and proceed with caution. Be aware of others near you or your equipment when you are performing an experiment. If you are not sure of how to proceed, ask.

Follow directions, both written and oral, carefully. If you do not understand a direction or procedure, ask the teacher before proceeding.

Perform only those experiments authorized by the teacher. Never perform any unauthorized experiments for the "fun of it." Do not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials in the laboratory area until instructed to do so. Use only materials and equipment listed in the activity equipment list or authorized by the teacher. Steps in a procedure should only be performed as described by the teacher or lab manual.

Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum while in the laboratory area. Do not use laboratory glassware or other containers as containers for food or beverages. Leave bottled water at your assigned seat.

The work area should be clean and tidy at all times. Bring only your laboratory instructions, worksheets, and reports to the work area. Other materials should be stored at your assigned seat. Return all equipment clean and in proper working order to the proper storage area as per instruction. If equipment is broken or not working properly report the problem to the teacher.

Keep aisles clear.

Do not sit or lean on laboratory counters or tables. Also keep all four legs of the chairs or stools on the floor. There is not a lot of space in the lab areas so it is very easy to bump into equipment while sitting on the tables or counters.

Sinks are not intended for waste disposal. Paper towels and other solid waste shall be placed in the trashcans in the classroom. Matches shall be placed in the designated metal container.

Know the location and operating procedures of all safety equipment. Listen carefully to all safety instructions.

Know what to do if there is a fire drill during a laboratory period. Close all containers and gas valves, shut off running water, and disconnect electrical equipment. Exit the room in a quiet orderly manner.

During an emergency remain quiet and orderly and follow the directions given by the teacher.

Notify the teacher of any unsafe conditions you observe.

Students are not permitted in the science storage room or preparation areas unless given specific permission.

CLOTHING

Always wear safety goggles when working with chemicals, flames, heated liquids, glassware, projectiles or any substances or activity that might injure eyes.

On lab days avoid wearing long necklaces, dangling bracelets, bulky jewelry, and bulky or loose-fitting clothing. Long hair should be tied back. Loose, dangling items may get caught in moving parts, accidentally contact electrical connections, or interfere with the investigation in a potentially hazardous manner. In addition, chemical fumes may react with some jewelry, such as pearls, and ruin them. Cotton clothing is preferable to wool, nylon, or polyester. Wear shoes that will protect your feet from chemical spills and falling objects - open-toed shoes or sandals, and shoes with woven leather straps are not allowed in the laboratory.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

Report any accident, spill, or injury to the teacher immediately, no matter how trivial it may seem. This includes strains, sprains, bruises, cuts, and foreign material in the eye, or any other such occurrence.

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In addition, if you get a headache, feel sick to your stomach or dizzy, immediately tell the teacher.

If a chemical should splash on your skin or in your eye, immediately flush with running water for twenty minutes. Have your partner notify the teacher.

HANDLING EQUIPMENT

Handle heavy objects carefully. Falling, dropping or swinging objects can cause injury so be sure objects are fastened securely and the immediate area is clear before proceeding.

Be especially carefully when using sharp objects. When using sharp instruments, always carry them with tips and points pointing down and away from your body. Always cut away from your body. Never try to catch a falling sharp object. Grasp sharp instruments only by the handles.

Never taste chemicals or touch them with your bare hands.

Use extreme CAUTION when working with hot plates or other heating devices. Keep your head, hands, hair, and clothing away from the flame or heating area, and turn heating devices off when they are not in use. Remember that metal surfaces connected to the heated area will, become hot by conduction. Make sure all heating devices are turned off before leaving the laboratory, even during a fire drill or emergency. Remember that many metal, ceramic, and glass items do not always look hot when they are hot.

- Never leave a hot plate or other heating device unattended while it is turned on.
- Do not heat glassware that is broken, chipped, or cracked.
- Use tongs or a hot mitt to handle heated glassware and other equipment that may be hot.
- Do not immerse hot glass in cold water, as it will cause the glass to shatter.
- Never look directly into containers being heated.
- Allow all items to cool before storing.

Exercise caution when working with electrical equipment. Do not use electrical equipment with frayed or twisted wires. When removing an electrical plug from a socket, grasp the plug, not the cord. Your hands must be completely dry before touching any electrical equipment. Do not let electrical cords dangle from workstations; dangling cords can cause electrical shocks and other injuries. Report damaged electrical equipment immediately. Do not use damaged electrical equipment.

When working with electrical circuits:

- Never close a circuit until the teacher has approved it. Never rewire or adjust any element while a circuit is closed.
- Never work with electricity near water. Be sure the floor and all work surfaces are dry.
- If the pointer on any kind of meter moves off scale, open the circuit immediately by opening the switch.
- Do not work with any batteries, electrical devices, or magnets other than those provided by the teacher.

GLASSWARE

Never handle broken glass with your bare hands. Use a dustpan and dispose of the broken glass in the proper container.

- If a bulb breaks, notify the teacher immediately.
- Do not remove broken bulbs from sockets.

Never put broken glass or ceramics in a regular waste container. Use a dustpan, a brush, and heavy gloves to carefully pick up broken pieces, and dispose of them in a container specifically provided for this purpose.

CLEAN UP

Clean and organize the lab table. The lab should look the same at the completion of the lab as it did at the beginning.

Unplug all electrical equipment used during the laboratory activity. (Except LabQuests)

Wash your hands thoroughly after performing experiments.

Allow adequate time for cleanup at the end of the class period.

Ask the teacher to inspect your area before leaving the classroom. Do not leave without the teacher's approval.

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Name: (Last, First) _____

SN: _____

Class Period: _____

SAFETY AGREEMENT

Physics is a hands-on laboratory class. You will be doing many laboratory activities, which could be dangerous if performed incorrectly. Safety in the science classroom is the first 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 Physics Student Safety Contract. These rules must be followed at all times. Two copies of the contract are provided. Both you and a parent or guardian must sign this copy before you can participate in the laboratory. The second copy is to be kept in your science notebook as a constant reminder of the safety rules.

I _____ (student's name) have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey the safety rules to insure 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, discipline, receiving a failing grade, and/or dismissal from the course.**

Student Signature

Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We feel 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 on the accompanying page. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and the parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher.

Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read the Physics Student Safety Contract, are aware of these measures taken to insure the safety of your son/daughter in the science laboratory, and will instruct your son/daughter to uphold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Is your child color blind? Yes No

Does your child have any allergies? Yes No

If so, please list known allergies:
