

## Student Lab Safety Contract

## Spencer County Middle School

## Miss E. Mac's Class

### Purpose

Science is a hands-on laboratory class. However, science activities may have potential hazards. We will use some equipment this year that may be dangerous if not handled properly. Safety in the science classroom and lab is an important part of the scientific process. To ensure a safe classroom, a list of rules has been developed and is called the Student Lab Safety Contract. These rules must be followed at all times. Additional safety instructions will be given for each activity.

No science student will be allowed to participate in science activities until this contract has been signed by both the student and a parent or guardian.

### Safety Rules

1. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the science lab. Horseplay, practical jokes, and pranks will not be tolerated.
2. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. Ask your teacher questions if you do not understand the instructions.
3. Do not touch any equipment, supplies, or other materials in the science lab without the teacher's permission.
4. Perform only authorized experiments. Do not perform any experiments without the teacher being present.
5. NEVER eat, drink, chew gum, or taste anything in the science lab.
6. Keep hands away from face, eyes, and mouth while using science materials or when working with chemicals. Wash your hands with soap and water before leaving the science room when using chemicals.
7. Wear safety goggles when instructed. Never remove safety goggles during an experiment. There will be no exceptions to this rule!
8. Keep your work area and the science lab neat and clean. Bring only the instructed materials with you into the science lab.
9. Clean all work areas and equipment at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the area designated by the teacher.
10. Follow your teacher's instructions to dispose of any waste materials generated during the lab.
11. Report any accident (fire, spill, breakage, etc.), injury (cut, burn, etc.), or hazardous condition (broken equipment, etc.) to the teacher immediately.
12. Consider all chemicals used in the science lab to be dangerous. Do not touch or smell any chemicals unless specifically instructed to do so.
13. Do not turn on water in the lab without the teacher's permission.
14. Always carry a microscope with both hands. Hold the arm with one hand; place the other hand under the base.
15. Never open storage cabinets or enter the prep/storage room without permission from the teacher.
16. Do not remove chemicals, equipment, or supplies from the science lab without permission from the teacher.
17. Handle all glassware with care. Never pick up hot or broken glassware with your bare hands.
18. Use extreme caution when heat sources are used during lab. Do not put anything into a flame unless specifically instructed to do so. Do not leave an open flame or heat source unattended.
19. Dress properly—long hair must be tied back, no dangling jewelry, and no loose or baggy clothing. Wear lab coats when instructed.
20. Learn where the safety equipment is located and how to use it. Know where the exits are located and what to do in case of an emergency or fire drill.

### AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_,

(student's name) have read and understand each of the above safety rules set forth in this contract. I agree to follow them to ensure not only my own safety, but also the safety of others in the science classroom or lab. I also agree to follow the general rules of appropriate behavior for a classroom at all times to avoid accidents and to provide a safe learning environment for everyone. I understand that if I do not follow all the rules and safety precautions, I will not be allowed to participate in science activities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

I feel that you should be informed of the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science classroom/lab environment. Please read the list of safety rules. No student will be permitted to perform science 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 safety contract and reviewed it with your child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date