

Riverside High School Lab Safety

Science is a hands-on laboratory class. Safety in the science classroom is the #1 priority for students, teachers, and parents. To ensure a safe science lab, a list of rules has been developed and provided for you in this student safety contract. You will keep this copy of the contract for yourself; however you and a parent must sign on the Student Information Sheet that you both have read these lab safety rules.

General

1. Be prepared to work when you arrive at the lab. Familiarize yourself with the lab procedures before beginning the lab.
2. Perform only those lab activities assigned by your teacher. Never do anything in the lab that is not called for in the lab procedure or by your teacher. Never work alone in the lab. Do not engage in any horseplay.
3. Work areas should be kept clean and tidy at all times. Only lab manuals and notebooks should be brought in the work area. Other books, purses, brief cases, etc. should be left at your desk.
4. Clothing should be appropriate for working in the lab. Jackets, ties, and other loose garments should be removed. Open-toed shoes should not be worn.
5. Long hair should be tied back, especially in the vicinity of an open flame.
6. Jewelry that might present a safety hazard, such as dangling necklaces, chains, medallions, or bracelets, should not be worn in the lab.
7. Follow all instructions, both written and oral, carefully.
8. Safety goggles and lab aprons should be worn at all times.
9. Set up apparatuses as described in the lab manual or by your teacher.
10. Always use the prescribed instrument for handling apparatuses or equipment.
11. Keep all combustible material away from open flames.
12. Never touch any substance in the lab unless specifically instructed to do so by your teacher.
13. Never put your face near the mouth of a container that is holding chemicals.
14. Never smell or taste any chemicals unless instructed to do so. When testing for odors, use a wafting motion to direct the odors to your nose.
15. Any activity involving poisonous vapors should be conducted in the fume hood.
16. Dispose of waste materials as instructed by your instructor.
17. Clean up all spills immediately.
18. Clean and wipe dry all work surfaces at the end of class. Wash your hands.
19. Know the location of emergency equipment and how to use it.