

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



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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. Below 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 any laboratory activities. You must also initial by each of the rules in the space provided. This copy of the rules is to be kept in your science notebook as a constant reminder of the need for laboratory safety and the signed sheet must be returned to your teacher.

General Rules

1. Prepare for the lab by reading the instructions and safety information ahead of time. _____
2. Always pay attention to the work – don't fool around in the lab. No horseplay, pranks, or practical jokes. _____
3. Follow all verbal and written instruction given by the instructor. _____
4. Never work in the lab unsupervised or perform unauthorized or unapproved experiments. _____
5. Do not eat, drink, apply cosmetic, manipulate contact lenses, or chew gum in the lab. _____
6. Keep the work areas tidy. Keep aisles and exits clear, and move backpacks, jackets, and other personal items out of the way of lab work. _____

Personal Safety

7. Approved eye protection must be properly worn **at all times** while you perform lab work. _____
8. Wear any additional safety equipment (aprons, gloves, etc.) as directed by the instructor. _____
9. Wear closed-toe shoes, tie back long hair, avoid loose or baggy clothing, and avoid short skirts or shorts while performing lab work. _____
10. Report all accidents, spills, or injuries to the instructor immediately. _____
11. Know the location of, and how to use, all classroom safety equipment. Know the location of the nearest exit. _____
12. Wash hands with soap and water after handling any laboratory materials. _____

Laboratory Safety

13. Consider all lab chemicals and specimens to be dangerous. Do not touch, smell, or taste any chemicals or specimens unless specifically instructed to do so. _____
14. Read the label on the bottles carefully before using chemicals. Be sure you're using the correct chemical at the correct concentration before removing it from the bottle. _____
15. Do not remove chemicals, specimens, equipment, or other supplies from the lab. _____
16. Follow proper procedures when operating a burner or heat source. Always turn the device off when not in use. _____
17. Use grounded electrical sockets. Unplug equipment by gripping the plug, **NOT** the cord. _____
18. Do not handle broken glass with bare hands. Use a brush and dustpan to clean up broken glass and place in a designated glass disposal container. _____
19. Dispose of all waste materials only as directed by the instructor. _____

Dissections

If not applicable to the particular science class, write N/A on the space provided.

20. Treat all specimens with respect and care. _____
21. Dissecting tools are sharp. Handle all instruments with extreme care. _____
22. Always cut away from your body and away from others. _____
23. Inform your teacher of any injuries, illness, or other accidents that occur during dissection. _____
24. Avoid contact with preservative chemicals. _____
25. Place specimens in dissecting pans before beginning the dissection, and pin down as necessary. Do not make any cuts while holding the specimen. _____
26. Never remove specimens or specimen parts from the classroom. All parts of the specimen must remain in the dissecting pan until the dissection is completed. _____
27. Properly dispose of dissected materials. _____
28. Store specimens as directed by your teacher. _____
29. Clean up the work area once the dissection is complete. Wash and dry dissecting tools, and return all supplies to their proper place. _____
30. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water once clean-up is finished. _____

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Student Safety Contract

I, _____, (print student's name) have read and fully understand the rules, safety practices, and regulations governing my conduct in the science classroom. I will abide by these rules to ensure my safety and the safety of all participants. I will follow all written and verbal instructions given by the instructor and ask questions if I do not understand a direction or procedure. I understand that the violation of these rules may result in my removal from the laboratory, a lowered grade, or other consequences as determined by the instructor and/or school administration.

Student Name (Print)	Student Signature	Date
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Parent/Guardian Name (Print)	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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Answer the following questions.

Do you wear contact lenses? Yes No

Do you have allergies or other medical conditions that your instructor should be aware of?

Yes No

If yes, please describe.
