Infinity Online Chemistry Class

Student Safety Contract

PURPOSE

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Science is a hands-on laboratory class. The chemistry labs which you will be doing will require common household chemicals. Nevertheless, you must use care and follow instructions carefully. Safety while completing these labs is the #1 priority for students, teachers, and parents. To ensure a safe science experiment, a list of rules has been developed and provided to you in this student safety contract. These rules must be followed at all times. One copy must be signed (you may type your signature and other information) by both you and a parent or guardian before you can complete the lab assignments. Please also print a copy to be kept in your science notebook as a constant reminder of the safety rules.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory.
- Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. If you do not under-stand a direction or part of a procedure, ask Mrs Smith or your in-school mentor before proceeding.
- Never work alone in a science lab. If you complete a lab in the chemistry department of your school, an instructor must be present.
- 4. When entering a chemistry lab, 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 while completing a lab. Do not use laboratory glassware as containers for food or beverage.
- 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. Unauthorized experiments are prohibited.
- 7. Be prepared for your work in laboratory. Read all procedures thoroughly before entering the laboratory. Never fool around in the laboratory. Horse-play, practical jokes, and pranks are dangerous and prohibited.
- 3. 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.
- Keep aisles clear. Push your chair under the desk when not in use.
- 10. Know the locations and operating procedures of all safety equipment including the first aid kit, eyewash station, safety shower, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket. Know where the fire alarm and the exits are located.
- 11. Always work in a well-ventilated area. Use the fume hood when working with volatile substances or poisonous vapors. Never place your head into the fume hood.

- 12. Be alert and proceed with caution at all times in the laboratory. Notify the instructor/school mentor immediately of any unsafe conditions you observe.
- 13. Dispose of all chemical waste properly. Never mix chemicals in sink drains. 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. Check the label of all waste containers twice before adding your chemical waste to the container.
- 14. 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.
- 15. Keep hands away from face, eyes, mouth and body while using chemicals or preserved specimens. Wash your hands with soap and water after performing all experiments. Clean (with detergent), rinse, and wipe dry all work surfaces (including the sink) and apparatus at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
- 16. Experiments must be personally monitored at all times. Stay at your work station until the lab is completed. Do not wander around the room or inter-free with the laboratory experiments of others.
- 17. 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.
- 18. When using knives and other sharp instruments, always carry with tips and points pointing down and away. Always cut away from your body. Never try to catch falling sharp instruments. Grasp sharp instruments only by the handles.

CLOTHING

- 19. Any time chemicals, heat or glassware are used, students will wear laboratory goggles. There will be no exceptions to this rule!
- 20. Contact lenses should not be worn in the laboratory unless you have per-mission from your instructor.
- 21. 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

- 22. Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, burn, etc.) to the school mentor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.
- 23. If a chemical should splash 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 instructure immediately.
- 24. When mercury thermometers are bro-ken, mercury must not be touched. Notify the school mentor immediately.

HANDLING CHEMICALS

- 25. All chemicals in the laboratory are to be considered dangerous. Do not touch, taste, or smell any chemicals unless specifically instructed to do so.
- 26. Check the label on chemical bottles twice before removing any of the contents. Take only as much chemical as you need.
- 27. Never return unused chemicals to their original containers.
- 28. Never use mouth suction to fill a pi-pet. Use a rubber bulb or pipet pump.
- 29. When transferring reagents from one container to another, hold the con-trainers away from your body.
- 30. Acids must be handled with extreme care. Always add acid to water, swirl or stir the solution and be careful of the heat produced, particularly with sulfuric acid.
- 31. Handle flammable hazardous liquids over a pan to contain spills. Never dispense flammable liquids anywhere near an open flame or source of heat.
- 32. Never remove chemicals or other materials from the laboratory area.
- 33. Take great care when transferring acids and other chemicals from one part of the laboratory to another. Hold them securely and walk carefully.

HANDLING GLASSWARE AND EQUIPMENT

- Carry glass tubing, especially long pieces, in a vertical position to minimize the likelihood of breakage and injury.
- 35. Never handle broken glass with your bare hands. Use a brush and dustpan to clean up broken glass. Place broken or waste glassware in the designated glass disposal container.
- 36. Fill wash bottles only with distilled water and use only as intended, e.g., rinsing glassware and equipment, or adding water to a container.
- 37. When removing an electrical plug from its socket, grasp the plug, not the electrical cord. Hands must be completely dry before touching an electrical switch, plug, or outlet.
- 38. Examine glassware before each use. Never use chipped or cracked glass-ware. Never use dirty glassware.
- Report damaged electrical equipment immediately. Look for things such as frayed cords, exposed wires, and loose connections. Do not use damaged electrical equipment.
- 40. If you do not understand how to use a piece of equipment, email/call the instructor for help, or ask your school's chemistry teacher.
- 41. Do not immerse hot glassware in cold water; it may shatter.

HEATING SUBSTANCES

42. Exercise extreme caution when using a gas burner. Take care that hair, clothing and hands are a safe distance from the flame at all times. Do not put any substance into the

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flame unless specifically instructed to do so. Never reach over an exposed flame. Light gas (or alcohol) burners only as instructed by the teacher.

- 43. Never leave a lit burner unattended. Never leave anything that is being heated or is visibly reacting unattended. Always turn the burner or hot plate off when not in use.
- 44. You will be instructed in the proper method of heating and boiling liquids in test tubes. Do not point the open end of a test tube being heated at yourself or anyone else.
- 45. Heated metals and glass remain very hot for a long time. They should be set aside to cool and picked up with caution. Use tongs or heat-protective gloves if necessary.
- 46. Never look into a container that is being heated.
- 47. Do not place hot apparatus directly on the laboratory desk. Always use an insulating pad. Allow plenty of time for hot apparatus to cool before touching it.
- 48. When bending glass; allow time for the glass to cool before further handling. Hot and cold glass has the same visual appearance. Determine if an object is hot by bringing the back of your hand close to it prior to grasping it.

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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 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 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

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