

WILSON C. RILES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Safety Regulations
for Science Students

While working in the science laboratory, students will have important responsibilities that do not apply to other classrooms. Students will be working with materials and equipment that, if handled carelessly or improperly, have the potential to cause injury or discomfort. A science laboratory can be a safe place in which to work if the student is alert and cautious.

The following practices will be followed:

1. Report any accident to the teacher immediately, no matter how minor, including any burns, scratches, cuts, or contact with corrosive liquid (on skin or clothing).
2. Prepare for each laboratory activity by reading all instructions. Follow all directions. If instructions are not clear, ask the teacher for clarification. Unauthorized experiments are not allowed.
3. Use only those materials and equipment authorized by the teacher.
4. Inform the teacher immediately of any equipment that does not work properly.
5. Clean up any nonhazardous spill on the floor or work space immediately.
6. Wear appropriate eye protection, as directed by the teacher, whenever working in the laboratory. Safety goggles must be worn during hazardous activities involving caustic/corrosive chemicals, heating of liquids, and other activities that may injure the eyes.
7. Splashes and fumes from hazardous chemicals present a special danger to people who wear contact lenses. Therefore, it is preferable for students to wear regular glasses (inside splash-proof goggles, when appropriate) rather than contact lenses during all class activities or purchase personal splash proof goggles and wear them whenever exposure to chemicals or chemical fumes is possible.
8. Never carry hot equipment or dangerous chemicals through a group of students.
9. Use all equipment as directed. Do not touch any chemicals, equipment, or materials until instructed to do so.
10. Be aware of any hazardous chemicals being used.
11. Never taste anything or touch chemicals with the hands, unless specifically instructed to do so.
12. Test for odor of chemicals only by waving a hand above the container and sniffing cautiously from a distance.
13. Eating or drinking in the laboratory or from laboratory equipment is not permitted.

14. When heating material in a test tube, do not look into the tube or point it in the direction of any person during the process.
15. Never pour chemicals back into bottles, exchange stoppers of bottles, or lay stoppers on the table.
16. Keep hands away from face, eyes, and clothes while using solutions, specimens, equipment, or materials in the laboratory. Wash hands as necessary.
17. To treat a burn from an acid or base, wash the affected area immediately with plenty of running water. If the eye is involved, irrigate it at the eyewash station without interruption for 15 minutes.
18. Know the location of the emergency shower, eyewash and face wash station, fire blanket, fire extinguisher, fire alarm box, and exits.
19. Roll long sleeves above the wrist. Long, hanging necklaces, bulky jewelry, and excessive or bulky clothing should not be worn in the laboratory.
20. Tie back long hair during a laboratory activity.
21. Goggles will be worn over the eyes in the laboratory as instructed during hazardous procedures.
22. Keep work areas clean. Floors and aisles should be kept clear of equipment and materials.
23. Light gas burners only as instructed by the teacher. Be sure no volatile materials (such as alcohol or acetone) are being used nearby.
24. Use a burner with extreme caution. Keep head and clothing away from the flame and turn it off when not in use. Never put any object directly into a flame.
25. Use a fire blanket (stop, drop, and roll) to extinguish any flame on a person.
26. Dispose of laboratory waste as instructed by the teacher. Use separate, designated containers (not the trash can).
27. Students are not permitted in laboratory storage rooms or teachers' workrooms without the approval of the teacher.
28. Report broken glassware, including thermometers, to the teacher immediately.
29. Operate electrical equipment only in a dry area and with dry hands.
30. When removing an electrical plug from its socket, pull the plug, not the electrical cord. Do not wiggle the plug to remove it; pull it straight out.
31. Always approach laboratory experiences in a serious and courteous manner.
32. Always clean the laboratory area before leaving.
33. I understand that I will be charged for any broken equipment or damage resulting from my negligence.
34. Never remove any materials from the laboratory.

Note: Persistent or willful violation of the regulations will result in the loss of laboratory privileges and possible dismissal from the class.

