

Student Safety Contract
Cedar Grove Elementary School
Science Lab

Purpose

Our new science lab is a resource for our students and teachers to supplement the MCPS science curriculum with inquiry based exploration and discovery. 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 to you in this student safety contract. These rules must be followed at all times. There is also a permission agreement connected to this form which must be signed by you and a parent/guardian and returned to your teacher before you can participate in the laboratory.

While you are in the lab, you need to:

General Guidelines

- Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully.
- Make sure there is a teacher or responsible adult in the lab with you.
- Perform only those experiments authorized by the teacher.
- Clean up after yourself before you leave the lab.
- Tell the teacher immediately if you see any unsafe conditions.
- Wash your hands with soap and water after doing all experiments.
- Handle all living organisms used in a laboratory activity kindly.

Clothing

- Wear laboratory goggles and/or lab aprons as directed.
- Be prepared to do science outside by wearing the appropriate outdoor clothing when coming to the science lab.

Accidents and Injuries

- Report any accident (spill, breakage, etc.) or injury (cut, etc.) to the teacher immediately.
- Tell your teacher immediately, if a chemical splashes in your eye(s) or on your skin.

Handling “Chemical” Substances

[Note: In an elementary school, items commonly found in a kitchen are considered a chemical substance: vinegar; salt; oil; food coloring; water; baking soda; candies; lemon juice; composted food items; yeast]

- Use chemicals correctly according to your teacher and the experiment directions.
- Keep all chemicals and other materials in the science lab.

Handling Equipment

- Only use equipment after your teacher has instructed you in its proper use and safety precautions. Ask for help from your teacher if you are unsure of how to use a piece of equipment.

Cedar Grove Science Lab Agreement

Student name _____ Teacher _____

I have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract.

I, _____ realize that I must obey these rules to be safe, and to keep my classmates and teachers safe. I will listen to my teacher and fellow students to keep the science lab safe. I will follow my teacher's instructions.

Student Signature

Date

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science laboratory environment.

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. No student will be permitted to participate in laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and parent/guardian and is on file with the classroom teacher.

In addition, your signature below gives your child's teacher permission to take your child outside around school grounds for inquiry-based observations and discoveries.

Decisions to go outside for a science learning experience are made independent of indoor recess decisions. By signing below, you are indicating your agreement that your child may go outside in any type of weather, as his or her teacher sees fit in order to meet curricular goals in science.

Your signature on this contract indicates that you have read this Student Safety Contract, are aware of the measures taken to ensure the safety of your son/daughter in the science laboratory, and will instruct your son/daughter to hold his/her agreement to follow these rules and procedures in the laboratory.

Parent Signature

Date