

SAFETY ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM FOR WORKING WITH MICROORGANISMS

The laboratory can be a hazardous place. It is therefore critical and an expectation that students adhere to the following specific protocols and standards to help make it a safer place to work and learn. Students who are immune compromised or pregnant are advised to let the teacher know in confidentiality, should alternative activities be required to insure health and safety. Culturing and use of live bacteria is not recommended at the elementary/middle schools and introductory level high school science courses.

1. Eating, drinking, and the application of cosmetics are strictly prohibited in the laboratory. Food must not be stored in a refrigerator with microorganisms.
2. Open toed shoes are not permitted; e.g. sandals, flip-flops.
3. All personal belongings (books, purses, backpacks) must be removed from the work surface.
4. Tie back long hair.
5. Keep hands away from the face at all times.
6. Cover all cuts, broken skin, or wounds to reduce or prevent exposure.
7. Gloves and indirectly vented chemical splash goggles must be worn whenever students are working with microorganisms.
8. If gloves become soiled, change immediately, following the proper protocol.
9. Always wash hands with soap and water after removing gloves.
10. DO NOT put pencils or pens in the mouth while working with microorganisms.
11. Cover and protect exposed wounds.
12. Laboratory coats or aprons must be worn.
13. Locate all fire extinguishers in the microbiology laboratory and know how to use if allowed.
14. Know the location of the eyewash station and how to operate it.
15. Disinfect the work space before and after each investigation. First apply a green cleaner and then use 70% alcohol or 10% bleach solution to disinfect. Leave on the surface for appropriate contact time of approximately 10-15 minutes (check recommended manufacturer's contact time.)
16. Handle all bacterial cultures with CAUTION!!
17. Use a pipetting device, never pipet by mouth.
18. Notify the instructor immediately if a culture has been spilled.
19. Place all materials in the appropriately labeled disposal containers upon completion of the laboratory investigation.
20. Cultures must never leave the laboratory workspace.
21. If there is a fire drill, turn off all flames and electrical equipment, if possible, and exit in an orderly fashion.

I have read and agree to follow the above safety guidelines. Parents and students should sign as indicated below before starting the activity. I agree to report any accident or injury to the instructor immediately. I will never use any equipment or supplies without obtaining permission from the instructor.

_____	_____	_____
Print Student Name	Student Signature	Date

I have read and reviewed the above guidelines with my child.

_____	_____	_____
Print Parent Name	Parent Signature	Date