

# Half Hollow Hills CSD

## Science Department

Christian Fogarazzo  
Director of Science

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Laboratory Safety

#### General Guidelines

1. Prepare for every investigation by reading through the procedure before coming to class. Follow all written directions precisely unless your teacher directs you to make certain changes.
2. Upon entering the classroom or laboratory, wait for your teacher to direct you to begin working. Do not handle the laboratory materials.
3. Work in a careful, organized manner. Horseplay, practical jokes or disruptive behavior are dangerous and cannot be tolerated.
4. Never consume food or beverages during a laboratory period. Never put any chemicals, specimen or lab equipment in your mouth.
5. Clothing and jewelry should be appropriate for laboratory work. Do not wear bulky outerwear or dangling jewelry that could interfere with the laboratory activity. Wear shoes at all times.
6. Keep your work table clean, dry and uncluttered. At the end of the period, clean up your work area, return all materials to the proper place, and wash your hands thoroughly. Be sure that all gas jets, electrical equipment and water faucets are turned off.
7. Know where special safety and emergency equipment is kept and how to use it.
8. Report all spills, accidents or injuries to your teacher immediately.

#### Safety with Heat

1. Light gas or alcohol burners according to your teachers' instructions. Put out the flame as soon as you are finished using it.
2. Never throw matches used for lighting burners into wastepaper baskets.
3. Never leave a burner unattended at your table.
4. Keep your head and clothing away from a burner flame and tie back long hair.
5. Keep flammable materials, such as books and papers, away from a burner flame. Do not put any objects into the flame unless told to do so.
6. When heating a substance in a test tube, never point the tube at yourself or anyone else.
7. Use only tongs, test tube holders or hot pads to hold or move hot glassware.
8. When using an electric hot plate, set the thermostat at the setting suggested by your teacher. Do not let the cord touch the hot surface.
9. Wear safety goggles when using an open flame or when heating a substance on a hot plate.

#### Safety with Chemicals

1. Wear safety goggles when working with dangerous chemicals.
2. Read the label of a container three times before using any of the contents of the container. Never use any chemicals from unlabeled containers.
3. Use only the amount of chemicals called for in the directions. Do not pour excess chemicals back into their containers.
4. Use a suction bulb to transfer liquids with a pipette. Never use your mouth.
5. Never pour water into strong acids. The heat generated can cause them to splatter. Instead, pour the acid slowly into the water.
6. Do not directly inhale the fumes given off by any substance. Instead, waft air above the substance toward your nose and sniff carefully.

#### Safety with Electricity

1. Always handle electrical equipment with dry hands and be sure that the work area is dry.
2. Do not allow cords from hot plates or microscopes to dangle from the work tables.
3. Do not use any electrical equipment with frayed cords, loose connections or exposed wires. Report such equipment to your teacher.
4. When removing an electrical plug from an outlet, pull it out by the plug and not the cord.

#### Safety with Glassware

1. Use glassware that is clean and not cracked.
2. Do not force glass tubing or thermometers into the holes of rubber stoppers. Lubricate the glass tubing with water or glycerin and insert it very gently into the stopper with a twisting motion.
3. If glassware is broken, notify your teacher. Do not pick up broken glass yourself.
4. Never play with the mercury from a broken thermometer. Notify your teacher immediately if a thermometer breaks.

#### Safety with Live and Preserved Specimen

1. Handle microorganisms grown in a Petri dish or test tube culture with extreme care. Always use sterile techniques.
2. Since many plants are poisonous, never place unknown plants or plant parts, such as berries, seeds, fruits and leaves in your mouth.
3. Always treat animals used in laboratory work humanely and handle them with care.
4. Always place a specimen to be dissected in a pan.

**I have read the above and agree to follow these rules:**

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_