

Group 1

Table 1

Your Lab Rule:

- To protect yourself from injuring your eyes, wear safety goggles whenever you work with chemicals, flames, glassware, or any substance that might get into your eyes.

Why we have this lab rule:

It is important to wear goggles to protect your eyes. Some chemicals can cause pain if they come in contact with your eyes. Glassware can, but usually doesn't, shatter. In the worst case scenario, you could go blind. So wearing goggles prevents your eyes from being injured.

Group 2

Table 2

Your Lab Rule:

- Wear an apron or coat whenever you work with corrosive chemicals or substances that can stain.

Why we have this lab rule:

Wearing an apron or lab coat keeps you clean and prevents injury when chemicals are spilled.

Group 3

Table 3

Your Rules:

- Tie back long hair to keep it away from any chemicals, flames, or equipment.
- Remove or tie back any article of clothing or jewelry that can hang down and touch chemicals, flames, or equipment. Roll up long sleeves.

Why we have these lab rules:

As careful as you might be in the lab, your hair can go wild. Anything that is flammable, can be damaged, or can knock over equipment must be tied back, rolled up, or otherwise secured. Many spills have happened because someone was wearing a baggy sweatshirt in the lab.

The procedure is written because it produces consistent results. It also ensures your safety and saves time in the classroom. Deviating from, or not following, the procedure can cause the results to come out wrong, could cause injuries or accidents, and will waste your time.

Group 4

Table 4

Your Lab Rule:

- Never wear open shoes or sandals.

Why we have this lab rule:

Always wear closed shoes. Open shoes and sandals are easy ways for broken pieces of glass, sharp objects, and hazardous substances to get into your feet.

Group 5

Table 5

Your Lab Rules:

- Read all directions for an experiment several times before beginning an activity. Carefully follow all written and oral instructions. If you are in doubt about any part of the experiment, ask your teacher for assistance.
- Never deviate from the written procedure.

Why we have these rules:

Humans are naturally curious. However, in a laboratory, curiosity can sometimes be unsafe. For example, if you mix two substances together it can produce a poisonous gas. (Trust Mr. Ower on this: he's seen it happen...twice!)

Following the procedure keeps you on task, saves you time, and keeps you safe!

Group 6

Table 6

Your Lab Rules:

- Never perform activities that are not assigned or authorized by your teacher. Obtain permission before “experimenting” on your own. Never handle equipment unless you have specific permission.
- Never perform lab activities without direct supervision.

Why we have these rules:

Supervision is required in a lab with someone who has experience. Even the lab Mr. Ower does his work in has a supervisor. The supervisor is there to keep you safe in the event that something goes wrong, to help you when you need it, or you are having trouble with the procedure.

Group 7

Table 7

Your Lab Rules:

- Never eat or drink in the laboratory.
- Keep work areas clean and tidy at all times. Bring only notebooks and written lab procedures to the work area. All other items, such as purses and backpacks, should be left under your chair or in a designated area.

Why we have these lab rules:

Eating or drinking in a lab where there are chemicals that can cause your harm is the most unsafe thing you can do. Some chemicals can make you sick when you ingest them. To prevent this, you're not allowed to eat or drink the lab.

Keeping your area clean helps prevent accidents, spills, and messes. It also prevents damage to your personal belongings.

Group 8

Table 8

Your Lab Rules:

- Know the location of emergency equipment such as the fire extinguisher.
- Know the location of the nearest telephone and whom to contact in an emergency.
- Know the procedure for emergencies (fires, tornados, etc.)

Why we have these rules:

Sometimes accidents do happen. If everyone knows the emergency procedures, it will keep you calm and help everyone think clearly. The last thing you need in an emergency is to be panicked.

Group 9

Table 9

Your Lab Rule:

- Before picking up a heated container, first hold the back of your hand near it. If you can feel heat on the back of your hand, the container is too hot to handle.

Why we have this rule:

Burns can happen quickly. Glassware and other objects that have been heated in the classroom should never be handled by students. It is best to leave it for the teacher to use. Using the back of your hand prevents damage to the nerves located on the palm-side of your hand.

Group 10

Table 10

Your Lab Rule:

- Never put your face near the mouth of a container that holds chemicals. Never touch, taste, or smell a chemical unless you are instructed to do so by your teacher.

Why we have this rule:

There are chemicals that are unsafe for humans to touch. They can cause burns, dissolve tissues, etc. Some chemicals have an odor that cause headaches or makes your eyes water. It is best to avoid these situations simply by not touching, tasting, or smelling the chemicals.

Group 11

Table 11

Your Lab Rule:

- Dispose of all chemicals as instructed by your teacher. To avoid contamination, never return chemicals to their original containers.

Why we have this rule:

Some chemicals will react when mixed together. Therefore we must be careful when we dispose of them. Some chemicals can be poured down the drain, others cannot. Some chemicals are harmful to the environment and must be disposed of in another way.

Group 12

Table 12

Your Lab Rules:

- Never use broken or chipped glassware.
- Never eat or drink from glassware.

Why we have these rules:

Damaged glassware is more likely to break when heated or cause a spill when used. Using undamaged glassware will save you lab time and keep you safe.

Eating or drinking for lab equipment is unsafe because there may still be trace amount of chemicals on the equipment. The best way to prevent an accident with this is simply to never use lab equipment for eating or drinking.

Group 13

Table 13

Your Lab Rules:

- Handle scalpels or other sharp instruments with extreme care. Never cut material toward you; cut away from you.
- Immediately notify your teacher if you cut your skin when working in the lab.

Why we have this rule:

It is always best to cut away from yourself. If someone bumps into you or if you lose control of the sharp instrument, the blade will move away, and not toward, you.

If you get a cut on your skin it is important to immediately report it. Even something as small as a paper cut is an easy opening in which chemicals can enter your body. Some chemicals sting when they enter a cut.

Group 14

Table 14

Your Lab Rules:

- After an experiment has been completed, clean up your work area and all return all equipment to its proper place.
- Dispose of waste materials as instructed by your teacher.
- Wash your hands after every experiment.

Why we have these rules:

Leaving a clean workspace is important. Returning supplies keeps your area clean and organized. Plus, if you leave a messy workspace when you are done, you are less likely to have labs in the future!

Always wash your hands. It removes chemicals, bacteria, germs, etc. that may be harmful to you.