**Science Classroom Safety**

**Working with your Teacher**

* Listen carefully to any instructions your teacher gives you.
* Obtain your teacher’s approval before beginning any activity you have designed yourself.

**Starting an Activity or Investigation**

* Before starting an activity or investigation, read all of it. If you do not understand how to do any step, ask your teacher for help.
* Be sure you have checked the safety icons and have read and understood the safety precautions.
* Begin an activity or investigation only after your teacher tells you to begin.

**Dressing for Science**

* When you are directed to do so, wear protective clothing, such as a lab apron and safety goggles. Always wear protective clothing when you are using materials that could pose a safety problem, such as unidentified substances, or when you are heating something.
* Tie back long hair, and avoid wearing scarves, long necklaces, or other loose clothing that hangs.

**Acting Responsibly**

* Work carefully with a partner/group, and make sure that your work area is clear.
* Handle equipment and materials carefully.
* If other students are doing something that you consider dangerous, report it to your teacher.

**Handling Edible Substances**

* Do not chew gum, eat, or drink in your science classroom. **Note:** drinking water is fine, as long as it’s not during a lab
* Do not taste any substances or use your mouth to draw materials into a tube.

**Working in a Science Classroom**

* Make sure that you understand all the safety labels on school materials and materials you bring from home. Familiarize yourself with the WHMIS symbols and special safety symbols.
* When carrying equipment for an activity or investigation, hold it carefully. Carry only one object or container at a time.
* Be aware of others during activities and investigations.

**Working with Sharp Objects**

* Always cut away from yourself and others when using a knife or razor blade.
* Always keeps the pointed end of scissors or any other sharp object facing away from yourself and others if you have to walk with it.
* If you notice sharp or jagged edges on any equipment, take special care with it and report it to your teacher.
* Dispose of broken glass as your teacher directs.

**Working with Electrical Equipment**

* Make sure that your hands are dry when touching electrical cords, plugs, or sockets.
* Pull the plug, not the cord, when unplugging electrical equipment. Report damaged equipment or frayed cords to your teacher.

**Working with Heat**

* When heating something, wear safety goggles and any other safety equipment that the textbook or your teacher advises.
* Do not use broken or cracked containers.
* Point the open end of a container that is being heated away from yourself and others
* Handle hot objects carefully. Be especially careful with a hot plate that might look as though it has cooled down.
* If you do receive a burn, inform your teacher and apply cold water to the burned area immediately.

**Working with Various Chemicals**

* Never inhale chemicals. Use the “wafting” technique if you need to smell a chemical.
* If any part of your body comes in contact with a substance, wash the area immediately and thoroughly with water. If you get anything in your eyes, do not touch them. Wash them immediately and continuously for 15 minutes, and inform your teacher.

