

## Mad Scientist Workshop Safety Guidelines

Our goal is to create a fun, engaging AND SAFE learning environment. All activities have been selected with safety and age-appropriateness in mind. Children will not be exposed to dangerous chemicals or equipment, and will be under close supervision at all times. Yet the potential for accidents remains, therefore Mad Scientist Workshop endorses a zero-tolerance policy toward misbehavior and/or disregarding stated rules or safety instructions.

It is the responsibility of the student and parent to read the Student Code of Conduct. Signing the registration form verifies your acknowledgement of the Student Safety Rules and consequences of misbehavior.

### Conduct:

1. Questions regarding safety/good lab practice should be immediately posed to Mad Scientist staff.
2. Students are required to be supervised by one or more Mad Scientist Staff members at all times.
3. Participants are expected to pay close attention to any verbal instructions given at the beginning of each activity. Participants will be given a chance to ask questions. Anyone unsure of any part of the directions as explained need to be sure to ask for clarification. **When in doubt, ask before acting!**
4. Participants are not to perform any unauthorized experiments under any circumstances. Students may not perform experiments other than those specifically approved by the instructor.
5. Eating and drinking is allowed only at appropriate times, and in appropriate places. Never taste anything in the laboratory. (This applies to food as well as chemicals. Do not use the laboratory as an eating place and do not eat or drink from laboratory glassware.)
6. Neatness in the laboratory is imperative. It is not only essential to successful work, but also effective in the reduction of accidents. The work area should be kept clear of all materials except those needed for the immediate task.
7. Report any equipment failure to a staff member.

### What to wear:

Students and staff are to be appropriately clothed in the laboratory at all times. Appropriate clothing includes:

- Feet should be totally protected (no sandals);
- Long hair must be tied back/secured;
- No loose clothing (loose sleeves, shirt tails etc) Any apparatus with moving pulleys or shafts (pumps, power tools) presents special safety concerns. Loose clothing poses a particular hazard when working with this type of equipment.

### Know the safety environment:

Be aware of the location of the fire extinguisher, eye wash station, fire blanket, spill kit, and first aid kit. These are for emergencies only.

### What to do if something happens:

1. In case of fire or accident, notify your teaching assistant at once. (Note location of fire extinguisher and blanket before they are needed. Wet towels are very effective for smothering fires.)
2. If you should get a chemical or other irritant into your eyes, notify your teaching assistant immediately and wash with flowing water from the eyewash for 15-20 minutes.
3. Staff will seek medical assistance for participants if injured in lab. Transportation will be supplied to a medical facility, as needed. Participant's family is responsible for all costs incurred!

### Disciplinary Actions:

1. Any blatant disregard of the rules of conduct, inappropriate or unsafe behavior will result in a documented verbal warning and a phone call to parents. Documentation of warning and phone conversation will be kept on file.
2. No other warning will be given. Any further disruption or misbehavior will result in student being sent home.
3. Any student who is to be sent home will not be allowed to participate in any other Mad Scientist activities while waiting for parent to arrive.
4. Inappropriate actions that cause equipment or property damage or threaten the safety of self or others will result in student being sent home without a warning. Cause for dismissal will be documented in writing and made available to parents.

# WAIVER AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT

*Experiential science activities are a wonderful way to develop a lifelong interest in math and science. Part of the magic is that all the activities are hands-on and very stimulating. Obviously, some risk comes with these activities and challenges. Our purpose in this disclosure is not to worry you, but rather to point out that there are risks connected with the fun, excitement, and adventure of a hands-on science experience and to alert you to your responsibilities for those risks.*

**Assumption of Risk.** As a parent or guardian of your child, you are aware of the inherent risks of injury, death, and property damage associated with Mad Scientist activities. Although the risks are low, a child may slip and fall or sustain cuts or other injuries in the course of participating in hands-on science activities. As part of this agreement you acknowledge that all such risks exist and that you have allowed your child to attend the workshop knowing of these risks and all of their possible consequences. You acknowledge further that injury, death, or damage may occur even when Mad Scientist Staff and others have exercised due and reasonable care in relation to your child.

**Waiver and Release of Liability.** As a parent or guardian of your child, by signing this document you agree to waive any claim you may have against The Mad Scientist Workshop, The Institute for Science and Mathematics, and all of their personnel with respect to injury, death, and property damage resulting from the risks described above. You agree further to waive and to not assert any claim for injury, death, or property or any other damage against The Mad Scientist Workshop, The Institute for Science and Mathematics, or any of their personnel.

**Knowing, Informed, and Voluntary Agreement.** By signing this document, you acknowledge that you have read it in its entirety, that you understand its contents, meaning, and effect, and that you have agreed to its terms completely and voluntarily. You also acknowledge by your signature that you accept the allocation of risks and responsibility as between The Mad Scientist Workshop and yourself set forth in this agreement. The Mad Scientist Workshop is relying on your consent to the terms of this agreement in its operation generally and in allowing your child, in particular, to attend.

**Responsibility for Your Child's Actions.** It is essential that you inform The Mad Scientist personnel directly (and not through your child) in the event there is any hands-on science activity in which you do not want your child to participate. Further, you understand and agree that in the event your child causes any harm or damage to another student, a staff member, or property, you will be fully responsible for such harm or damage, including being responsible for indemnifying The Mad Scientist Workshop and its personnel should they be forced to defend themselves in connection with any resulting lawsuit or claim.

**Resolution of Disputes.** You understand and agree that in the event any dispute arises between you, either personally or on behalf of your child, and The Mad Scientist Workshop, The Institute for Science and Mathematics, or their personnel, that dispute will be decided according to the laws of the State of Alaska.

*I have read and understood all of the above terms and conditions and, having enrolled my child in the Mad Scientist program, agree to be bound by them.*

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

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Signature of parent/guardian

Date