

Being A Good Science Partner

No one wants a science partner that doesn't do their part and no one wants to be that student who no one wants to partner with. Below are some tips on how to be a great science partner as well as some funny, but true, examples of how not to be :-)

- ★ Come to class prepared with your Interactive Science Notebook (ISN), sharpened pencil, and brain turned on!
- ★ Pay attention to directions and information, **even when it's not your specific part or role**, so that you can **help** your teammates fill in information s/he may have missed.
- ★ Read the procedures carefully before doing the procedures carefully.
- ★ Share all of the duties equally. This includes the fun stuff, the boring stuff, and the gross stuff.
- ★ Be a responsible and thorough participant. Make sure you complete the requirements of your part, check-in and communicate with others about their parts, and help one another!
- ★ Help with clean-up!

Please, please, please for the sake of yourself and for your team AVOID being person:

- **The Slacker**--This person simply refuses to do anything resembling work. If you split the labor with this person, you can rest assured that only half the labor will get done: your half.
- **The Socialite**--This person will spend the entire period talking to his/her friends in the class, and possibly ~~even~~ helping with activities. You might be able to trust him/her to do work that is brought home, but you can forget about getting help while actually in the lab.
- **The Non-Communicator**--This person will work, and possibly even do good work. But s/he has his/her own idea on how to do things, and is not open to discussion, suggestions, or criticism of his/her ideas. S/He might even ignore you completely when you ask him what he is doing. At first, you might think this person is doing you a favor, but of course you won't be learning anything. Why be in class if you're not going to get anything out of it? You're missing out!!
- **The Space Case**--This person is simply unreliable. S/He doesn't outright shirk labor, like the slacker, but s/he will often "forget" to finish their part, and tends to leave written work or necessary supplies at home or in his/her locker. If you have a science partner like this, you will likely end up "rescuing" him/her on numerous occasions.
- **The Danger to Life and Limb**--This ought to be obvious, but it does not make a person "super cool" if they decide to taste their latest chem experiment. Not all reckless science teammates are attempting to show off; some of them are simply too excited to sit and read the instructions before diving in and starting the activity. It can be very tiring to have a teammate who you feel you have to baby-sit; in this particular case, you might want to speak to your instructor. Safety ain't a joke, folks.



*life happens and you or a teammate may simply be
may be a serious issue that is causing the unwanted behavior. If the problem is
your teacher. I am here to help.*