Activity: Chemistry Basics Crossword Puzzle

FOR THE TEACHER

Summary
In this activity, students will complete a crossword puzzle by solving each clue that is related to a basic, yet fundamental chemistry topic.

Grade Level
Elementary and Middle School

Objectives
By the end of this activity, students should be able to
- Demonstrate an understanding of fundamental chemistry topics.

Chemistry Topics
This activity supports students’ understanding of
- Matter
- Density
- Mixtures
- Physical Properties
- Chemical Properties
- Elements

Time
Teacher Preparation: minimal
Lesson: 15 - 20 minutes

Materials
- Crossword puzzle & clues

Safety
- No specific safety precautions need to be observed for this activity.

Teacher Notes
- This crossword puzzle is a good way to highlight the chemistry content in an elementary science classroom.
- Depending on the ability level of the students, the puzzle could be made more difficult by eliminating the word bank, or by adding more terms to the word bank to act as distractors.
- This crossword puzzle could also be used at the middle school level, during a physical science class.
- An answer key document has been provided for teacher reference.
Word Bank

Observations       Element       Matter       Inference       Rows          Ion       Mixture
Water             Atomic Mass     Accurate     Lab Safety       Sunlight       Chemistry

Across
3. When measuring a chemical in a lab, it is important for your measurement to be _______.
5. If an object is less dense than water, it [sinks/floats]. (Select one)
6. A charged atom
7. Combination of two or more substances
10. The periodic table has 18 columns, called groups, and 7 _______, called periods.
11. Wearing goggles in a lab is an example of ______ _________.
13. Something that has mass and takes up space
15. Ice melting represents a [physical/chemical] change. (Select one)

Down
1. While doing an experiment it is important to record ______ in your lab notebook or worksheet.
2. ______ _____ is how heavy an atom of an element is.
4. The study of how everything (matter) is made and how it changes
8. Carbon is a _________ on the periodic table
9. Reaching a possible conclusion based on your results and observations
12. H₂O
14. Plants need this to make food and grow