

Name: _____

Date: _____

Pd: _____

Seat #: _____

“Adopt an Element” Research Paper

Directions:

You will select an element from a list of available options, conduct research on it, and communicate your findings through a formal research paper.

The layout of your paper will be as follows (1 paragraph each):

1. Intro
2. History (name, origin of name, discovery person/date/how)
3. Physical properties (transition to chem. Property using location on periodic table)
4. Chemical properties (including common compounds)
5. Uses, fun facts, etc.
6. Conclusion

** Keep in mind that an average paragraph at the 8th grade level should be 5-7 sentences. **

Research Requirements: (see attached skeleton notes to help guide you)

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Element name and symbol | * Color |
| * Origin of name | * Odor |
| * Discovery person | * Normal phase (what phase it's found in, in nature) |
| * Discovery date | * Group # with explanation of why |
| * Story (the “how”) behind the discovery | * Period # with explanation of why |
| * Classification as metal, metalloid, or nonmetal | * Reactivity with water |
| * Atomic number | * Flammability |
| * Atomic mass | * Half-life (how long it takes to degrade half the sample) |
| * # of Protons | * Common Uses |
| * # of Neutrons | * Common compounds containing my element |
| * # of Electrons | * Where element is most commonly found on Earth |
| * Melting Point | * 3 or more additional interesting facts |
| * Boiling Point | |
| * Freezing Point | |

Other Requirements:

- All papers must be typed and no shorter than 3 pages in length
 - 12 pt font
 - 1” margins
 - Arial, Helvetica or Times New Roman font (these are universal between different computers)
- You will use a minimum of 3 reliable sources (books or websites) for your research (NO WIKIPEDIA!). Check my “cool links” on my science webpage for help.

- Your sources will be documented **in alphabetical order** on a Works Cited page, attached to the back of your research paper.
- You will use MLA format to cite your sources (see example/directions below)
- You will attach a cover page to the front, with the following items:
 - Name, date, period, seat # (in the top right corner)
 - Picture of the element (rectangle from the Periodic Table Of Elements)
 - Title of the paper (centered, in larger font)
- See attached rubric for specific grading criteria

How to Correctly Cite Your Sources:

Citing an Entire Web Site

Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). *Name of Site*. Version number. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if available). Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:

The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web. 23 Apr. 2008.

Citing a Page Within a Web Site

For an individual page on a Web site, list the author or alias if known, followed by the information covered above for entire Web sites. Remember to use *n.p.* if no publisher name is available and *n.d.* if no publishing date is given.

Example:

"How to Make Vegetarian Chili." *eHow*. Demand Media, n.d. Web. 24 Feb. 2009

Citing a Book:

Author last name, Author first name. Title of Book. City of Publisher: Publishing company, Copyright date.

Example:

Henley, Patricia. The Hummingbird House. Denver: MacMurray, 1999.

Due Dates:

October 1st (Wed) – History & Physical Property research DUE

October 3rd (Friday) – Chemical Property & Uses, etc. research DUE

October 9th (Thursday) – Rough Draft DUE (typed, preferred)

October 23rd – Final Draft DUE (typed REQUIRED)