

ADOPT AN ELEMENT (B)

8th Grade Science - Breedlove and Thurmond

S8P1. Students will examine the scientific view of the nature of matter.

1. Task: You are the proud new parent of...an element! Your mission is to introduce your element to the entire class. Learn about your new adoptee by answering the following questions:

1. Who discovered my element? How was it discovered?
2. What are my element's characteristics?
3. Where is my element located on the Periodic Table? (group, period)
4. How is my element used?
5. Is it beneficial to health or harmful to health?
6. Any other interesting facts you find about your element.

2. Information Seeking:

- Textbook pages 165-167, 712-713
- [Britannica for Middle \(Compton's\)](#) - www.galileo.usg.edu
- [Britannica High](#) - www.galileo.usg.edu
 - *Please note: If you are using Britannica at home, you will need the GALILEO password (see your assignment sheet).*
- <http://www.chemicool.com>
- www.google.com
- Any 'links' associated with your elements.

You must use at least 3 sources to answer the research questions. Cite your sources at the end of your paragraph. You may copy/paste the URL (<http://> website address) to your notes or write the title and author of a book.

3. Present:

- Your teacher will give you a colored sheet of paper to represent your element. Make a creative "Element Box" to be displayed on your class' Periodic Table. Information should be displayed so it can be utilized in the classroom.
- On a separate sheet of paper, answer the six questions thoroughly in paragraph form. This can be typed or handwritten.
- You will present your 'Element Box' to the class and tell the class at least three interesting facts about your element. If you choose to do the 'Essay' you may also share this with the class.

4. Optional Essay (separate sheet of paper) - good for up to 10 BONUS points on grade of your choice

Imagine that one day, out of nowhere, your element in the periodic table suddenly starts to disappear from the face of Earth. Depending on your element, the results could be cataclysmic. Write a fictionalized "firsthand" account of the day your element disappeared. (An example: the day Earth lost its iron—buildings crumble, bridges collapse, blood gradually becomes anemic, and so on.) You will need to use your research on some of the basic uses of your element. Where does it appear in nature, if at all? How is it used by scientists, engineers, artists, doctors, and so on? Where is its presence crucial? How would life be different without it? Would life even be able to survive?

Essay Requirements:

- **Typed** – Times New Roman font, size 12 font, double-spaced, 1 page - OR - **Handwritten** – 2 pages

DUE DATE: Wednesday, September 9

RUBRIC – Please check the quality of your work!

Total Possible pts.	Category	A	B	C	D	Total Pts.
40	Paragraph Content (sources not cited - 10 pts.)	I answered all 6 questions	I answered 5 of 6 questions	I answered 4 of 6 questions.	I answered 3 or less of the questions.	
40	Poster Appearance	My element is clearly and creatively labeled.	My element is labeled and somewhat creative.	My element is clearly labeled.	My element isn't labeled clearly or creatively.	
20	Presentation	My presentation clearly helped the class understand my element.	My presentation helped the class understand my element.	My presentation somewhat helped the class to understand my element.	My presentation did not help the class understand my element. (Not prepared!)	
10	BONUS: Essay	My essay is imaginative and uses more than 7 facts about my element. 10 pts.	My essay is imaginative and uses 6 facts about my element. 8 pts.	My essay is imaginative, but I included only 4 facts about my element. 5 pts.	My essay is not imaginative, and I included 3 or less facts about my element. 3 pts.	
					Total pts.	

If you choose to turn in your project late, up to 20 pts will be deducted for each day it is late.

You will not be called on to present your element to the class until your poster (Element Box) has been turned in.