

Exploring Creation with Chemistry
2nd Edition
Teacher: Shelia Talbott
(434)286-8867
sbtalbott@aol.com

Dear Students-

What a year we have ahead of us! I am looking forward to working with you on Chemistry and can't wait to get started. I hope each of you feel the same.

We will be doing some pretty complicated lab work this year, and we will all need to follow the following rules in our lab:

- 1 **No Horseplay:** Some of the chemicals we will be using are caustic and can hurt you if handled inappropriately. Also, we will be using open flames with our alcohol burners.
- 2 **Prepare for the lab by reading all directions completely**
- 3 **Listen to directions.**
- 4 **If you're unsure of the directions, ask before proceeding**
- 5 **Dispose of any chemical agents only as directed.** Some chemicals must be diluted prior to disposing, and some can not go down the sink. You will be given instructions at each lab.

Attached is an outline of work to be done during the week. All work needs to be completed on time. We will be spending approximately 2 weeks on each of the 16 modules. As you read, answer the "On your Own" questions at home and keep in your binder. You don't need to do a new sheet for each set of questions, but be sure to skip one line after each answer (to add corrections) and always answer in complete sentences or show all your work. When finished, use the key at the end of the module to check your answers and make corrections. At the end of each unit, complete the study guide. Skip a line between questions for corrections. Try not to go back through the module to complete the study guide. Do it on your own. To be sure you're prepared for the test, have your parents check it using the solutions manual. When the module is complete, take the test on your own, without help and without the book. Then turn in all the work at the times marked on the outline.

Each week, bring the following supplies to the class:

- Exploring Creation with Chemistry, 2nd Edition**
- 3 ring notebook with paper and 16 dividers (one for each module)**
- Calculator**
- Pencils with erasers**
- Blue or Black Ink Pen**

Please let me know as soon as possible of any problems or questions you may have. Small problems tend to grow if left unattended. Email is the best way to get in touch with me, but you can also give me a call if needed. If you think you're struggling with some of the work, or don't really understand something let me know early. Unlike some of the other sciences, Chemistry builds from module to module. If you don't understand module 1, I can guarantee you'll be struggling by module 5!! I want you to be successful in my class and to enjoy it.

I am also including a grading scale. Please have your parents let me know if they would like for you to receive a grade in my class.

Finally, a word about lab write ups and test. You'll find that there are lots of calculations and problem solving in chemistry, and lots of places to make math errors. It is important that you **SHOW YOUR WORK** for all calculations. You can't track down where you made your mistake later unless you know what path you took. On tests, you will be given partial credit if you have your set-up correct, but got the wrong answer due to a simple math error. I want to make sure you understand the problem solving, I'm not so much concerned if you can add, subtract, multiply and divide (though, if you can't do that by now, you're in the wrong science class!!!) If there's just an answer and it's wrong, you lose full credit. Ouch!

Looking forward to a great year in Chemistry!

Mrs. Talbott