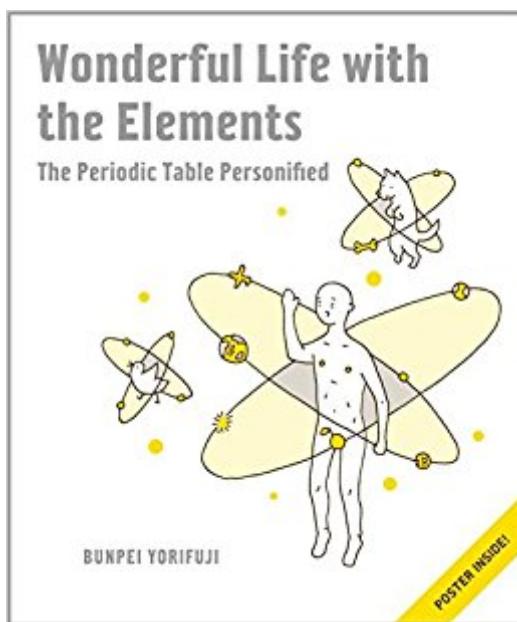


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Wonderful Life With The Elements: The Periodic Table Personified



Synopsis

From the brilliant mind of Japanese artist Bunpei Yorifuji comes *Wonderful Life with the Elements*, an illustrated guide to the periodic table that gives chemistry a friendly face. In this super periodic table, every element is a unique character whose properties are represented visually: heavy elements are fat, man-made elements are robots, and noble gases sport impressive afros. Every detail is significant, from the length of an element's beard to the clothes on its back. You'll also learn about each element's discovery, its common uses, and other vital stats like whether it floats or explodes in water. Why bother trudging through a traditional periodic table? In this periodic paradise, the elements are people too. And once you've met them, you'll never forget them.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Helium: The Lighthearted Gas Raising Our Spirits and Voices Children know it from funny voices and balloons. This ancient element could be found along with hydrogen minutes after the Big Bang. And without these two, no other elements could have been formed. They are the only two elements that are lighter than air, so maybe they're kind of like the leaders, looking down on all the others? But helium, unlike hydrogen, is one cool cookie and doesn't explode easily at all. Explore helium and the rest of the elements in *Wonderful Life with the Elements*.

Japanese artist Bunpei Yorifuji is well-known for his series of humorous ads for the Tokyo metro, "Do It At Home," which show riders doing inappropriate activities on the subway. He is the author of several books in Japanese, including Milk Century and The Catalogue of Death.

I got introduced to this book by a friend who thought it was cute. So, since my dad's birthday was coming up and he is a chemist, I got it for him! I was a little nervous it was too cute for him, but he loved it. He kept looking through it after we gave it to him. From what I saw, each element has a different illustrated guy based on if it was a recently discovered element or a element discovered long ago. There is a key to all of this in the front. The Japanese of each element name is there also. It is a great way to accidentally learn something new as you enjoy looking at the lovely illustrations. The book is hard cover with a dust cover. It is not very big, maybe about 8 by 9 inches and about an inch thick. It says there is a poster inside.

I love this book so much. I bought it for a 7 year old for Christmas and she really loved it. I then went back and bought 3 more to give to other children I know (and one for myself). It is very informational and fun. I especially liked how they differentiated the elements, which really helps you recognize and remember their attributes (like how long they have been discovered, their weight, etc.) One thing I would note is that some of the pictures have cartoon penises. You can see an example on the preview here on - page 6. It isn't graphic in my opinion, and the mom of the child I bought it for didn't mind - but I thought I would note it in case that does bother anyone!

This is a totally different presentation of the elements---the book is loaded with interesting details presented in a very unique fashion. I really like it as a coffee table book. I pick it up often and love flipping through. A bit weird is that the elements are represented by a male figure---old, young, strong, etc. Which is interesting. This allows each page to convey a lot of information. But, sounding like an American prude, is it necessary to include genitalia? I'm sure this a cultural thing and it doesn't bother me but I would be uncomfortable sharing with a 10 year old kid. You know?

This book is awesome! My 13 year old got it last year and he still reads it all the time. The amusing illustrations and excellent explanations really helped him learn AND remember tons of facts about the elements. I would highly recommend this to anyone! It is likely to get a child interested in science, even if it is not their thing, just because it is so fun :-)

I just bought my third copy: I gave one to my god-daughter for graduation (she was my chemistry student, too) and one to my student teacher. And one for me. I will certainly give it as a gift in the future. It is a very quirky, interesting, inventive and way of looking at the Periodic Table, perfect for the science nerd in your life :D

This book would be especially good for highschool kids who think that chemistry and the study of the elements are boring. I read a review of this book in C&E News, the journal of the American Chemical Society. The author uses lots of cartoons, jokes and short descriptions of the elements and their place in the periodic table. I enjoyed the book and I hope my 14 year old grandson enjoys it also.

This book is FANTASTIC! It is so creative I'm sure any intelligent kid would LOVE it (their parents and teachers will too!) The talented artist-author uses cartoon figures (chubby for heavy elements, ghostly for gases etc) to classify and define the different elements in a meaningful and fun way that makes what is actually a comprehensive text into a dynamic and really entertaining book for all ages. It's 'Wonderful' alright!

Very interesting concept. This author has imaginatively illustrated the properties of all the elements. It is far too complex for my little brain, considering I've never studied chemistry, but I like browsing through it anyway.

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