

ChemMatters Portfolio Project

ChemMatters is a chemistry magazine loaded with rich, informative and entertaining resources about Chemistry. If you ever ask the question "Why should I learn about Chemistry?", the answer can be found in any volume of ChemMatters. Your chemistry textbook offers a basic explanation of the nature of matter. The ChemMatters magazine offers you an explanation of how chemistry relates to the real world. Learn about both and you will gain a life-long appreciation for chemistry that will add understanding, beauty and joy to your future!

Your Portfolio Project will span the course of the year. Simply pick articles of your choice from the magazine and complete at least one of each of the formats below. Store all of your products in the classroom folder portfolio. Items produced on the computer will need to be printed as a hard copy for the portfolio as well as emailed to your teacher. Also, the article of choice must be printed (black & white or color) and attached to the back of your product. Include your name, the date, your class period and a proper article reference at the beginning of each item. Below is an example of APA Magazine Reference format:

Husband, T. (2012, April). Recycling aluminum: a way of life or a lifestyle?. *ChemMatters*, 15-17.

How to Find Articles: Go to the ChemMatters Archives online at www.acs.org/chemmatters Browse the topics and choose an article of at least 3 pages. Print the article and you're ready to start!

Grading: The goals of this Portfolio Project are multidimensional. Products are to demonstrate your learning and your creativity in presenting what you have learned. The use of technology is included. You should dedicate a considerable amount of time to reading the article, rereading the article and developing an original product plan. You are encouraged to highlight, underline and make notes on the printed article as you study the material. Be careful to report what you've learned without "lifting" in the form of plagiarism. You are asked to show how the article applies to your past, present and/or future experiences in life. Ultimately, you are to create a thorough document that instills confidence in your teacher's perception that you "know your stuff" and have made a considerable effort to present your newly found knowledge and reflections on the topic. This is a Mastery Grade. You will receive a grade for each product and an overall Portfolio Grade at the end of the year for completing and properly storing your articles.

The following is a list of portfolio product formats. *You are required to use each at least once.* After you have used each one, you may then pick any format(s) of your choice to complete the remainder of the portfolio.

Item Formats:

1. Hand-written standard report with several hand-drawn supporting visuals interspersed throughout.
2. Typed standard report with several computer generated supporting visuals interspersed throughout.
3. PowerPoint using both text and visuals. The use of audio in the form of meaningful dialogue or explanation is encouraged. Print the slides to attach to the article to be placed in your portfolio. Email the PowerPoint to your teacher.
4. A movie of approximately 1 minute showcasing the information in your own way (using Windows Live Movie Maker or another program of your choice). This, of course, can't be printed. It will be shown in class. The original article is to be printed and a short description of your video should be attached to the article to be placed in your portfolio folder.
5. Original poem of any form or song lyrics expressing information, thoughts and feelings about the topic (*Optional: I would love to hear you present this!*).
6. Your own Item Format idea. Use your personal talent to demonstrate what you have learned. Create a sculpture, painting, montage, pop-up book or some other creative expression to reflect upon the article. You will bring your creation to class. Remember, a creative expression can also be academic and take the form of an original class activity, a unique lab activity, or something of that nature. Also, you will need to write an explanation of your project and how it relates to the article. Include a photograph of your project with the explanation. Attach the photograph and explanation to the printed article to be placed in the portfolio.

**Note: Share your idea with your teacher before you begin this item format.*

***Important! Do NOT experiment out of class with any materials that could hurt you unless you have authorized supervision. SAFETY is paramount!*