

WORKING THROUGH THE ELEMENTS

Tenth graders in Mrs. Lubkeman's class participated in an elements lab to help them begin to understand the metals and nonmetals of the periodic table

story by annika becker and kelsee johnson

Does it have luster? Can it conduct electricity? Is it brittle? Malleable? These questions were pondered by 10th grade chemistry students in order to identify mystery elements in Mrs. Lubkeman's lab. The point of the lab was to learn the difference between elements on the periodic table. Students took the materials and did three tests on them. The first test was based on appearance, the students had to describe the color and shape etc. The next test was observing the luster (shininess/dullness) and whether it was super shiny (high), semi shiny (median), or not at all shiny (low). The next test was determining if it was brittle or malleable; they tested it by taking the materials and then attempt to ground them up in a bowl; if it broke easily than it was considered brittle, if it was difficult than it was considered malleable. "We had to grind up a substance in a cup and used this thing to grind it so see if it broke a lot," Maggie Zegel (10) said.

The next test was to conduct electricity; students used a tool that had a positive a negative that were separate, if they touched then a little red light would light; if the metal could conduct electricity then the light would light up, if it couldn't then the light would stay off. The last test was if it reacted with acid; the students put the materials in a try and add acid, if the metal reacted they marked it as it did, but if it didn't then they marked it as a no "Some of the metals we used were like dust and they would react but at the same time it didn't look like they did," Adam Gannon (10) said. Students then took that data a decided if it was a metal, nonmetal, or metalloid; after that students had the opportunity to guess what it was on the periodic table. "Then we had to write it all down to see if each one was a metal, a nonmetal, or a metalloid. So, if they were a metal, they would react with acid, if they were a non-metal, they wouldn't react, and if they were a metalloid, they would react but not as much as a metal," Paxton Lohr (10) said.



STEP INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

Jazz band members describe their experience being in the spotlight for their solos at the concert



HE SAID:

"It is just exciting, I love soloing, it's one of my favorite parts of jazz band. I feel like if we had more prep time then it would be even better, but for what we did, it was pretty good and I'm proud of myself," Chris Gonzales (11) said.



SHE SAID:

"I started off kind of slow, I didn't know where to start because it is improvised so I just stared at the chords for a while, but once I was into my solo, I started to feel more relaxed and I started to just go along with the music and just let my fingers do whatever they felt like doing at the time," Annette Perez Alaya (9) said.



ROCKIN' FOR SOCK TOBER

Lilah Ruiz (9) takes pride in wearing crazy socks for socktober week



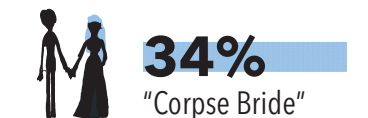
"I didn't really know about socktober until I saw the student council posters in the hallway and then I was like "Hey I was already participating and I didn't even know," because I like to wear fun socks everyday." Ruaz said.



1. FRIENDS FINDING ANSWERS. After grinding up the metals to determine their brittleness, Kenna Brush (10) and Jaedyn Brown (10) observe their material. They used a metal tool to handle the metals. "We got different types of metals off the counter and had to find out what they were. We tried to break them with a tool. We also used acid to see if it reacted," Brush said. photo by kaylee sanger **2. BRAINSTORMING WITH BATTERIES.** While working with her friends on this project, Arrissa Cordova (10) holds a battery up to a piece of metal to test the conductivity. She was testing the materials to figure out how they were classified. "I was trying to find out if it's a nonmetal or metal one thing I like about the lab was when the metal reacted to the chemicals," Cordova said. photo by kelsee johnson **3. MYSTERY MATERIALS.** Nathan Harvey (10) and Antonio Enriquez (10) place unidentified materials onto paint containers. The materials were either nonmetals, metalloids, or metals. "We didn't know what the metals actually were, they were just lettered. But we could guess what they were. My group and I could tell that one was charcoal and one was copper," Harvey said. photo by kelsee johnson **4. AH-HA MOMENT.** Britta Stearns (10) looks up while recording data on her worksheet. Stearns was partners with Paxton Lohr (10) in the lab. "I was filling out our worksheet and writing down whether the material was malleable or brittle which we decided by if it crushed easily or not. Paxton would smash it in a bowl to see if it broke apart," said. photo by kaylee sanger

TAKE IT TO TWITTER

Student council member Kayla Gumeson (10) created a voting poll on the @LHSSStudentHype twitter page to pick a movie for the Halloween movie night event. Halloween Town won by 48%. "I voted for Halloween Town because I watch that movie every Halloween so it's tradition for me," Ashtyn Waddle (9) said.



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