

1983

Element-ary Puns

Rita K. Voltmer
University of Northern Iowa

Jody M. Hines
University of Northern Iowa

James L. Kelly
University of Northern Iowa

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj>



Part of the Science and Mathematics Education Commons

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Copyright © Copyright 1983 by the Iowa Academy of Science

Recommended Citation

Voltmer, Rita K.; Hines, Jody M.; and Kelly, James L. (1983) "Element-ary Puns," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 20: No. 3, Article 8.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol20/iss3/8>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the IAS Journals & Newsletters at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa Science Teachers Journal by an authorized editor of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uni.edu.

Offensive Materials Statement: Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

ELEMENT-ARY PUNS

Rita K. Voltmer
Assistant Professor of Teaching-Science

Jody M. Hines
Instructor of Teaching-Science

James L. Kelly
Assistant Professor of Teaching-Science
Price Laboratory School
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

The periodic table offers a lot of information, most of which is usually not used by high school students. However, it is important for students of chemistry, biology and physics to have some background related to the elements that make up the periodic table.

Several students were working with a periodic table and realized they could make studying the elements more enjoyable by making up some statements that led to the actual naming of the element. For example: If you want to catch wild horses, *europium*.

Having started this, the students began putting illustrations with their statements for identification and the rest is all history. Our walls became adorned with element caricatures, cartoons, statements and questions. We have many. Maybe your students can come up with some also. Maybe they'll be the same as ours.

*Why do you
put a worm
on a hook
when you
fish?*



Figure 2

To get you started, we are printing two with illustrations.

The illustrations are by Betsy Kelly, a 1983 Northern University High School graduate currently majoring in art at the University of Northern Iowa. The statements were created by Greg Martin and Greg Piech of Northern University High School.

If you would like to have your element-ary puns published in future issues of ISTJ, send statements or questions and black-and-white line drawings to Dr. Carl W. Bollwinkel, Editor, Iowa Science Teachers Journal, Price Laboratory School, Univ. of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

*What do you call
a 5 dollar bill on
an ant hill?*



Figure 3



Figure 1

*Figure 1 - europium, Figure 2 - tellurium, Figure 3 - antimony