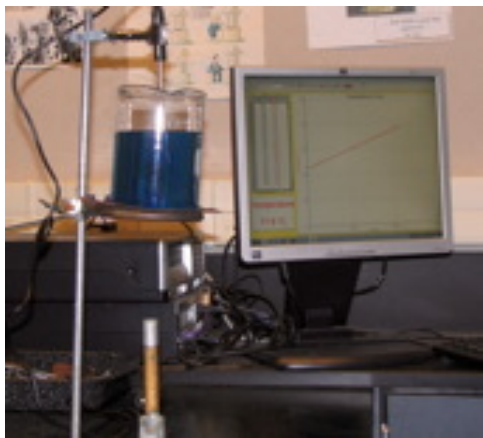


Chemistry is fun

- Science is not just a vast accumulation of knowledge, it is also the **process** through which all of this knowledge is attained.

That's why we do **labs**!

- Labs involve using burners, strong acids, a variety of glassware, and digital probes w/computer software.
- Students conduct experiments with a lab partner
(**Be safe** - your partner's health and welfare may depend on it!)



Demonstrations

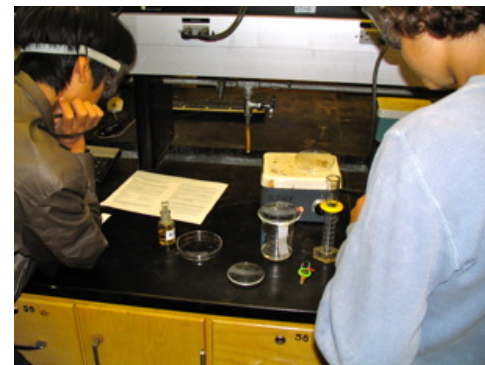
- We do "demos" to provide visual enhancements of concepts and reactions discussed in lessons
- Demonstrations may involve chemical reactions, flames, sparks, explosions, colored gases and solutions, ... and liquid nitrogen!

Chemistry is a quantitative science

- Most labs and problems involve measurements
- We use math to make sense of the measurements
- Basic algebra requirements - minimum of "C" or better in Algebra I (a "B" is a more realistic indicator of your ability to apply math skills to a **chemistry word problem**)

Chemistry is a cumulative course

- Each new unit builds upon skills and concepts learned in previous units
- Don't skip homework assignments
- Avoid creating conceptual gaps and chasms



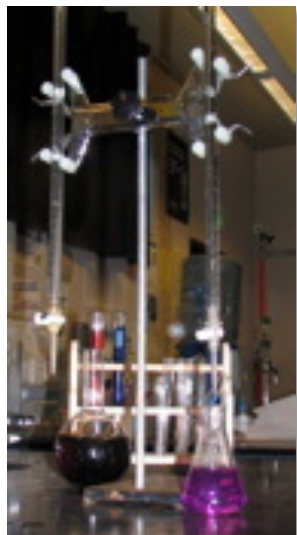
Chemistry is a rigorous course

- It is designed to be challenging
- Success in Chemistry requires conceptualization, not just memorization
- You will need to use deductive reasoning and analytical thinking skills

Chemistry Honors

Advanced pace introductory chemistry

- Chemistry Honors is taught at an "AP-level" using a standard AP Chem textbook
- It involves a more rigorous coverage of concepts than the regular chemistry course
- Expect more challenging problems on homework and tests
- An application process is used to determine which students will be accepted into the class
 - 1) submit application form (usually in late Feb/early Mar)
 - 2) take qualifying exam
 - 3) feedback from current science and math teachers will also be assessed



Chemistry

- Why are some elements violently reactive while other elements don't react at all?
- What determines which elements will react with a specific kind of atom?
- How can we use the Periodic Table to predict the behavior of atoms?
- Why are some atoms radioactive, and what purpose does this radioactivity serve for the atom?
- When chemical reactions occur, how can we predict what chemical substances will be produced?
How can we predict the amounts of products formed?



Chemistry studies "the stuff
that stuff is made of"