

## In Summary....

Throughout this year, you will be challenged to succeed in attaining a proficient knowledge base. My objective is to impart upon you a basic understanding of chemical principals and prepare you for further studies. I will use a variety of methods to present information, including laboratory investigation, WebQuests, lecture, and demonstration. These exercises will introduce you to concepts involving the world in which we live.

Whether you plan on continuing your scientific quest, or just find chemistry repulsing despite my efforts, I hope that you will at least gain a respect for knowledge about the world we live in and just how special it is.



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**North  
Oldham  
High  
School**



*Welcome to my class. This brochure is meant to be informative and will outline my expectations of you this school year.*

## What exactly is chemistry ... besides scary?

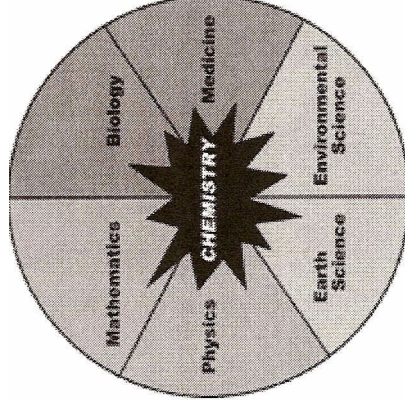
Chemistry is defined as a science that deals with the composition, structure, and properties of substances and the transformations that they undergo. This sounds fun, right? In reality, most people don't truly understand why chemistry is important to our lives and why it is worth studying.

### Why Study Chemistry?

Chemistry is an incredibly fascinating field of study. Because it is so fundamental to our world, chemistry plays a role in everyone's lives and touches almost every aspect of our existence in some way. Chemistry is essential for meeting our basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health, energy, and clean air, water, and soil. Chemical technologies enrich our quality of life in numerous ways by providing new solutions to problems in health,

materials, and energy usage. Thus, studying chemistry is useful in preparing us for the real world.

Chemistry is often referred to as the central science because it joins together physics and mathematics, biology and medicine, and the earth and environmental sciences. Knowledge of the nature of chemicals and chemical processes therefore provides insights into a variety of physical and biological phenomena. Knowing something about chemistry is worthwhile because it provides an excellent basis for understanding the physical universe we live in. For better or for worse, everything is chemical!



poly-meric materials, pharmaceuticals, flavorings, preservatives, dyes, or fragrances. You may also be aware that chemists are frequently employed as environmental scientists, chemical oceanographers, chemical information specialists, chemical engineers, and chemical salespersons.

However, it may be less obvious to you that a significant knowledge of chemistry is often required in a number of related professions including medicine, pharmacy, medical technology, nuclear medicine, molecular biology, biotechnology, pharmacology, toxicology, paper science, pharmaceutical science, hazardous waste management, art conservation, forensic science and patent law. Thus, a chemistry degree can be effectively combined with advanced work in other fields which may lead, for example, to work in higher management (sometimes with an M.B.A.), the medical field (with a medical degree), or in the patent field (possibly with a law degree).

## Why do I need to know about Chemistry?

It may be obvious to you that a chemistry background is important if you plan to teach chemistry or to work in the chemical industry developing chemical commodities such as