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ELEMENT-ARY PUNS

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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?*

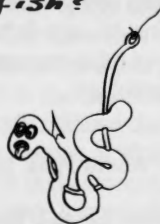


Figure 2

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