

DEPARTMENTS

Question from the Classroom

By Bob Becker

All colored gases are poisonous. So is water steam poisonous, too?

ON THE WEB 2

Did You Know?

How migratory birds find their way; a super-sticky material; oceans becoming more acidic; and a super-strong metallic glass.

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Profiles in Chemistry: Thomas H. Lane, President of the American Chemical Society

Thomas H. Lane explains how chemists address major issues facing our planet, such as reducing climate change, increasing access to safe drinking water, and finding new sources of energy.

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FEATURES

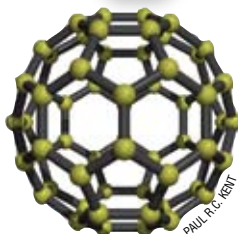
Where Do Chemical Elements Come From?

By Carolyn Ruth

Discover where most of the chemical elements in the periodic table come from.

Spanish translation available online!

ON THE WEB 6



PAUL R. KEST



ISTOCK

POSTER FROM WWW.THINKGEEK.COM



What "Uuo"ught to Know About Elements 112–118

By Christen Brownlee

Elements 112–118 are oddities that are made in the laboratory. Learn how scientists make and study such elements.

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Metals' Hidden Strength

By Roberta Baxter

New materials made of metals may significantly impact our lives in the future. They include a new type of solar cell; a smaller transistor for computers; and a material that can recover its original shape after being deformed.

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Graphite Versus Diamond: Same Element but Different Properties

By Andrew Sicree

Diamond and graphite are two types of carbon, but their properties and applications could not be more different.

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Nanotechnology's Big Impact

By Nadia Halim

Nanotechnology is a hot research area in which scientists use atoms and molecules to build materials that have promising applications in health care, clean energy sources, and shrinking electronics.

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COVER PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY AND JUSTYN R. MAUND (UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE). In this artist's view the red supergiant supernova progenitor star (left) is exploding following the transfer of about 10 solar masses of hydrogen gas to the blue companion star (right).