

# Physical Science

## *A Smörgåsbord of Knowledge*



*A Smörgåsbord is some sort of Swedish buffet. To make your own Smörgåsbord, get a bunch of friends together and rob an Ikea.*

## ***Introduction:***

Middle school physical science is an interesting creature. After all, there's no such thing as "physical science." Instead, what we call physical science is just a combination of chemistry, physics, geology, astronomy, and everything else but biology. That's a lot of ground to cover, and physical science books usually do a really bad job of it.

The goal of this book is to make the typical middle school physical science class awesome. Naturally, this is a tough challenge given the limitations given above. However, I've taken the following steps to make this book different than its competitors:

- **I haven't dumbed it down.** Though middle school students aren't adults, it's my belief that the condescending voice that other books use is both harmful to the goal of making science fun as well as insulting to the reader. You won't find that here.
- **I've cut lots of useless stuff.** You don't need to know what an amide is, so I've dropped it from the text. And about a million other unnecessary factoids.
- **There are jokes.** Though I haven't skimmed on the facts, I've added things I find funny to make this book easier to read (and more fun to write)
- **You can edit it.** If you find that this book doesn't meet your needs as written, the .odt-formatted files are fully-editable. If you don't have a word processor that can read this file format, check out Libre Office (<https://www.libreoffice.org/>). Not only is it free, but it's also open source, which means that it's written specifically to make knowledge more available for others. Files in .pdf format don't have this benefit, but since some of you can't read .odt formats, I've included them anyway.
- **It's free (as in beer).** If you have paid money for any part of this book, the person who sold it to you is in violation of its license (Creative Commons CC-BY-NA 4.0). Go get your money back and inform the site from which you got it to let them know that this free resource is being used improperly. Never, ever pay money for this book, because I intend for it to be free for everybody's use.
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***Aside from that, I'd like to pass on the usual caveat that you should email me if you find something wrong with any part of this book ([misterguch@chemfiesta.com](mailto:misterguch@chemfiesta.com)), and that you should let me know if you have any other comments or questions.***

***Happy Teaching!***

***Ian Guch  
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