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Exploring Creation With Chemistry

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Synopsis

This course is designed to be a first-year high school chemistry course. The course covers significant figures, units, classification, the mole concept, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, acids and bases, redox reactions, solutions, atomic structure, Lewis structures, molecular geometry, the gas laws, and equilibrium. Requires the completion of algebra 1 as a prerequisite.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great College Preparation
Apologia is a very rigorous college prep series. I don’t usually recommend specific curriculum, because I know it’s all about “fit” more than a textbook. When it comes to science, though, I had such success with the curriculum we used, that I really do recommend it - even to my clients that are not Christian. I know for a fact that Apologia is great college preparation because my son Kevin is an electrical engineering major in college. He still refers to his Apologia Physics book now and then. He used Apologia Chemistry during college, to review for a class he was taking. He has reviewed his physics book frequently. It’s been one of my “best buys” for curriculum, because they have literally used them for 5 years. Kevin has a fabulous GPA in engineering, and I believe it is in part because he was so well prepared with Apologia Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. If you want to make Apologia even MORE rigorous, it is possible. You can go through a book in a semester instead of a year, and make it an AP course if you want, but it’s not necessary at all, just an option. I have heard of some “college prep” AP classes that actually take a child 5 hours a day to complete. That would be so frustrating to spend 5 hours a day on one class! One mother was letting core subjects in reading, writing and math slide, just so her child could get an AP Chemistry credit. That’s a lot of work for not a lot of benefit. It’s easier to keep your subjects
at the level of your children when they do it at home with a homeschool curriculum. Apologia is a self-teaching homeschool curriculum, so kids can learn it on their own, and moms don't have to know what they are doing in order to be successful.

Before I begin my review, I want to state my "credentials" for reviewing the Apologia Chemistry textbook. I am certified in the state of Texas in the field of secondary composite science, which includes chemistry. I have previously homeschooled my kids, so I know the needs of homeschoolers. Most relevantly, I'm in my second year of teaching chemistry using this book at a small Christian school. Our school is a small classical Christian school and is very intensive in certain areas at the high school level, especially in the area rhetoric and writing. We could not accomplish all we wanted to in all of the other disciplines if our science classes were exceptionally challenging. We also have very limited resources to equip a science lab. For a school like ours and for homeschoolers, the Apologia text is perfect. All of the most important concepts in chemistry are presented in the text and done so in a scientifically credible way. At the same time, the concepts are presented in a way that my students are generally able to understand for themselves (with some exceptions, such as the complicated heat equations in Chapter 2). I appreciate that the book offers several labs per chapter and that they're labs that can be done with household chemicals. Since we don't have a true chemistry lab or a budget for more expensive equipment, these labs are perfect for allowing us to do scientifically meaningful labs on a budget. It's true, as some reviewers have noted, that the book is somewhat simplified, compared to certain other high school chemistry texts. There's no comparison between the Apologia Chemistry text and a text that might be used to teach AP Chemistry.

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