**The “Periodic Table of Element Books” was a non-commercial, educational project.**

Almost all images taken from amazon.com with specific book references listed below.

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While other kids collected baseball cards, I was building up a collection chemistry books including several such as Isaac Asimov’s “The World of Carbon” (which I still have) that contained elements in the title. I’ve been wanting to create a periodic table featuring the covers of books with elements in their titles for decades, but there was always going to be gaps in the table. But thanks to Amazon and the rise of ebooks, it became possible.

I specifically wanted to include lots of titles with no direct bearing on chemistry – novels, poem collections, for example – because they often have marvelously colorful art covers that would make the final table visually pleasing (textbooks covers can be rather dull). I also tried to find titles in which the element name featured prominently, in large print, since each box in the table would enviably be small. Some, I know, will require squinting, but overall it turned out well (some element names were enlarged to improve visibility).

I also knew I would have to ‘cheat’ in cases of some rare elements. Afterall, who would expect to find a book with einsteinium or moscovium in the title? But I’m not losing any sleep for including books on scientists or places that lent their names to some elements. On the other hand, who knew there were non-science books with americium, astatine, or ytterbium in their titles?

And just for fun, I included one book that did not contain an element name in the title (although I did find one for that element) but it’s title perfectly defined the origin of the name of that element. Can you spot it?

Nick Thomas

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