Isotopes and Atomic Mass:

What does the mass on the periodic table mean?

By Trish Loeblein http://phet.colorado.edu Learning Goals:

- 1. Define "isotope" using mass number, atomic number, number of protons, neutrons and electrons
- 2. Compare and contrast: element, atom, isotope
- Given the number of protons, neutrons and electrons, find the 3. mass and name of an isotope
- 4. Given the name of an element and the number of neutrons, find the mass of an isotope
- 5. Give evidence to support or dispute: "In nature, the chance of finding one isotope of an element is the same for all elements."
- 6. Find the average atomic mass of an element given the abundance and mass of its isotopes

Pre-Lesson Discussion

- · Calculate the average mass of the eggs in the container.
- Record the mass of each type of egg and the number of each.
- What is difference between the "Average" Mass" and "Individual Mass"?
- Design a situation to make the mixture _____g

Post-Lesson Questions

What would this be?

- A. Carbon-12
- B. Carbon-14
- C. Oxygen-14
- D. More than one of these

Protons:	٩	۲	۲	۲	۲	۲		
Neutrons:	۲	۲	۲	0	۲	۲	۲	۲
Electrons:	•	•	•	•	•	•		





14

6

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Which would be isotopes?



Reason: Isotopes have same number of protons (so the same name), but different number of neutrons

	1 and	2 are isotopes
L	16 8 0	Protons:
2	15 0 8	Protons:
3	14 N 7	Protons: Neutrons: Electrons:

Reason: 3/6 gives 50% of each, so

.5*2+.5*1=1.5 amu

H 50.0 %

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Why are there more digits in the answer in the sim?

2H

()) ()) Percent Composition

Average Atomic Mass

1.51096amu

50.0 % ²₁H

 ^{2}H

What would the approximate average mass of Hydrogen be?





A. 40 amu B. 38 amu C. 37.5 amu

Reason: .5*36+.25*38+.25*40=37.5

Discussion Questions: How would you know if this combination is likely to be found in some dirt?



Reason: 10/14*14+4/14*15=14.285 On the periodic table, the mass of Nitrogen is given as 14.007, so this is not the most common mixture

7 N 14.007



found in nature.

