



## **Chemistry starters**

### **September 2025**

Some ideas to get ahead and suggested sources for reading and viewing are to be found below.

1. "The Disappearing Spoon" by Sam Kean - This book brings the periodic table to life with fascinating stories about the elements.
2. "Napoleon's Buttons" by Penny Le Couteur and Jay Burreson - It explores how 17 molecules changed the course of history.
3. "The Double Helix" by James D. Watson - A personal account of the discovery of DNA's structure, offering insights into the scientific process.
4. "Chemistry: A Very Short Introduction" by Peter Atkins - A concise and engaging overview of chemistry.
5. "Uncle Tungsten" by Oliver Sacks - A memoir that intertwines the author's love for chemistry with his childhood experiences.
6. "The Elements: A Visual Exploration of Every Known Atom in the Universe" by Theodore Gray - A visually stunning book that showcases the elements with beautiful photographs.
7. "Periodic Tales: The Curious Lives of the Elements" by Hugh Aldersey-Williams - This book delves into the cultural and historical significance of the elements.
8. "The Chemistry Book: From Gunpowder to Graphene, 250 Milestones in the History of Chemistry" by Derek B. Lowe - It covers key milestones in chemistry, making it a great read for understanding the field's evolution.
9. "Molecules" by Theodore Gray - A follow-up to "The Elements," this book explores the molecules that make up our world.
10. "Stuff Matters: Exploring the Marvelous Materials That Shape Our Man-Made World" by Mark Miodownik - This book examines the materials that make up everyday objects and their fascinating properties.