

Reading the Table by Position

8th Grade

Where an element sits tells you how it will behave.

Position on the periodic table predicts behaviour, because position reflects electron arrangement.

Position	Tells you	Because
Group (column)	how it reacts	same outer electron count
Period (row)	how many shells	each row adds a shell
Left side	metal — loses electrons	few outer electrons
Right side	non-metal — gains electrons	nearly full outer shell
Far right	unreactive	full outer shell

The staircase between metals and non-metals marks the metalloids, which behave like both.