



Hi. I'm Sheldon Margulies. I am the owner and developer of Fascinating Education. I am also a neurologist who has taught over 2500 medical students and residents in my career, and I have since turned my attention to younger students with online courses in Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Anatomy and Physiology, and the Logic of Medicine.

In my curricula, I don't just teach. I explain, in plain English, one step at a time, using images that I've created and narrate. I want students to see exactly what I'm saying, and for today's students who are so comfortable with audio and visual learning, narrated images are a great way to learn science.

Learning is not memorizing. I want students to use what they learn in my curricula to explain things they may not have even thought to ask – like why glass shatters when you hammer it, but a nail bends, or how geckos are able to climb walls and ceilings.

I know that many students are anxious about science courses, but I've done my best to relieve that anxiety. In chemistry, for example, I introduce the four ways that atoms bond to each other. Once students understand this, the rest of chemistry all makes sense, and suddenly they "get it." Chemistry becomes a tool, not a set of facts to memorize.

I've structured the courses so that students will always be succeeding. Within each lesson are "Catch our breath" slides that summarize and offer a short break. At the end of each lesson is a "What you know so far" summary listing what the student should be taking away from the lesson.

Following each lesson are review questions that allow students to use what they've learned. After they've thought about an answer to the review question, they can click on my narrated answer. After the review questions, the student can take an online test. If a student is ever "stuck," there's a help button that offers key points to help them answer the test question.

We have scripts for each of the lessons and reviews, and pdf copies of the tests so that they can be administered without access to the help button if you like.

I sincerely want students to dive into science without fear of being overwhelmed. I want them to succeed and develop confidence in their own abilities. I've spent my academic life studying how our brains focus our attention and learn, and how emotions and motivation affect learning. I've applied this to my curricula in the hope of engaging students with real-life information and eliminating unnecessary complexity.

I hope you take this opportunity to try one our free lessons. Afterwards, if you have questions, comments, suggestions, new ideas -- whatever -- I'd like to hear from you, because it's going to take a combined effort to get more kids thinking about what science can do for themselves, for America, and for the world.



I look forward to hearing from you.

*Sheldon Margulies*