

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Activity 3.4: Grading the Molecular Models for Soda Water Fizzing Worksheet

*This worksheet has “grading” in the title because at this point, students can be held accountable for correct answers. Level 4 (correct) responses to the questions are in **blue bold italics** below. There are also comments about common Level 2 and Level 3 responses to help you with grading and making decisions about what to emphasize in future lessons.*

*Red italics suggest ways to grade student responses by giving them points for correct or partially correct answers. There are 10 points total on this worksheet.*

You will use models to learn about soda water fizzing at the atomic-molecular scale, as you continue to look for answers to “unanswered questions” from your investigation.

### A. Introduction

“Carbonated water” gets its name from a weak acid called carbonic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ). That’s what gives soda its sharp, “fizzy” taste. Use the molecular models to show how carbonic acid can break up into molecules of water and carbon dioxide when soda water loses its fizz.

### B. Using molecular models to show the chemical change

*Work with your partner to make a model of the reactant molecule, carbonic acid.*

1.  Make a model of a carbonic acid molecule ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) and put it on the *reactant* side of the *Molecular Models Placemat*.
2.  When you are finished creating the reactant molecule ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ), put away all extra pieces that you didn’t use from the molecule kit. This is an important step!

*Show how the atoms of the reactant molecule can come apart and recombine into product molecules: carbon dioxide and water.*

3.  Take the carbonic acid molecule apart and recombine the atoms into carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) and water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) molecules. Put these molecules on the *product* side of the *Molecular Models Placemat*.

