



your child. Help him/her practice words by reviewing them frequently to help with memorization. Making flashcards at home is helpful, as you and your child can make games to play together with the cards.

Key Words:		
Atom —	smallest particle of an element	
Chemical compound —	when two or more elements combine chemically	
Chemical Reactions —	a change that happens when substances combine to form new substances	
Product —	name for a substance that is formed during a chemical reaction	
Reactant —	name of a substance that is changed during a chemical reaction	
Conservation —	saving something so it is not lost	

### E. Focus Questions

Your child's Student Textbook will have a focus question at the beginning of each chapter. The California Department of Education refers to this as a "guided question", which is a question that guides students' learning. The purpose of the focus question is to situate learning for the students by giving them one question to keep in mind while working, reading, and interacting with others. By "situated learning" we mean learning for a purpose. Students who have a purpose for learning a concept or task become active participants in their own processes, and as a result become more enthusiastic about learning.

For the student who has difficulty with language or learning, the focus question helps the student maintain a cognitive benchmark, meaning that it helps guide him/her toward achievement of the standard. Through maintaining a focal point, students are able to monitor their comprehension and understanding of concepts and skills.

Focus Question		
Compare the amount of mass of the substances formed after a chemical reaction has taken place, with the amount of mass of the substances at the beginning of a chemical reaction.		
<i>The masses are the same. No matter is lost.</i>		
<b>Answer</b>		