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Using Chemical Change to Identify an Unknown- Activity Sheet

Objectives:

1. To be able to identify and control variables to develop a test to identify an unknown power.

2. To be able to explain that a substance _____

_____ ways and that these characteristics can be used to ______

DEMONSTRATION

1. Your teacher poured iodine solution on top of two white powers. How do you know that these two similar-looking powders are really different?



2. Adding iodine solution to one power caused a physical change, while adding the iodine solution to the other powder caused a chemical change. Which powder probably reacted chemically with the iodine solution?

How do you know?

ACTIVITY

Question to Investigate

Can you use the characteristic way substances react to tell similar-looking substances apart?

Materials for Each Group

- Baking soda in a cup
- Baking power in a cup
- Cream of tartar in a cup
- Cornstarch in cup
- Water in dropper bottle
- Vinegar in a dropper bottle
- Tincture of iodine solution in dropper bottle
- Universal indicator solution in dropper bottle
- 4 Popsicle sticks
- Well plate

Procedure

- 1. Use the end of a Popsicle stick to place four equal piles of baking soda on the testing chart in the baking soda column. You will not use all of the powder at this time. The reminding powder will be used in the *Extend* portion of this lesson.
- 2. Add 3 drops of water to the first pile of baking soda. Record your observations in the chart on the activity sheet.
- 3. Continue testing each pile of baking soda with different test solutions and recording your observations.
- 4. Test each power with the test solutions that way you tested baking soda and record your observations.



tions	Baking Soda	Baking Powder	Cream of tartar	Cornstarch	Unknown

Results Table

TAKE IT FURTHER

Baking powder is a combination of different powders – baking soda, cream of tartar, and cornstarch. Two of these three powders react with one another and produce carbon dioxide gas when water is added.

Question to Investigate

Which two substances in baking powder react with one another and produce a gas when water is added?

CORN STARCH

AND CREAM OF

TARTAR

BAKING SODA

AND CORN STARCH BAKING SODA AND CREAM OF TARTAR

Materials for Each Group

- Baking soda in a cup
- Cornstarch in a cup
- Cream of tartar in a cup
- 3 Popsicle sticks
- Toothpicks
- Wax paper
- Water
- Dropper

Procedure

- 1. Use separate popsicle sticks to place a small amount of two powders on a piece of wax paper.
- 2. Use a toothpick to mix the powers.
- 3. Use a dropper to add about 3 drops of water to the combined powders and record your observations.
- 4. Repeat steps 1 and 2 until you have tested all three combinations.

Baking soda + cornstarch	Baking soda + cream of tartar	Cornstarch + cream of tartar