What It Takes to Change

Changes in matter are happening all around you. But not everything changes in the same way. Some changes in matter are physical; others are chemical. Find out more about these types of changes in this activity.

Procedure
1 In this activity, you will move around the room in teams to different stations, where you will observe the properties of several substances before and after a change. You will then use these observations to help you identify each change as physical or chemical. You will support your claim with evidence from your observations.
2 Choose one team member to record your team’s observations on your “Data Chart” student handout.
3 Start at the station designated by your teacher and follow the directions on your “Station Instructions” handouts for each station.
4 When you have completed all the stations, discuss your observations as a team. Come to an agreement about whether each change was physical or chemical and discuss what observational evidence supports your claim. Finish filling in the chart with your answers.
5 After the chart has been completed, your team will participate in a class discussion about the types of changes that occurred at each station.
6 After you have completed the stations part of the activity, you will complete the “Changes in Everyday Life” student handout individually.