

Physical and Chemical Change

5th Grade

One you can undo. One you cannot.

PHYSICAL CHANGE

- No new substance is made
- Usually reversible
- Melting, freezing, boiling
- Cutting, crushing, dissolving
- Ice → water → ice again

CHEMICAL CHANGE

- A new substance is made
- Usually irreversible
- Burning, rusting, cooking
- Signs: bubbles, colour change, heat, smell
- Wood → ash. You cannot get the wood back

THE DIFFERENCE THAT MATTERS

Dissolving sugar is physical — evaporate the water and the sugar returns. Burning it is chemical.

Look for the signs: new colour, new smell, gas produced, heat given off, or something you cannot reverse.