

Chemical and Physical Properties Homework

Your assignment is to find an interesting object in your home and explore its chemical and physical properties. When choosing your object, make sure it's neither a treasured family heirloom nor a valuable item, as chemical and physical testing may damage the object.

The object I chose was: _____

Describe the chemical properties of this object below, citing any evidence you have collected:

Describe the physical properties of this object below, citing any evidence you have collected:

Teacher Guide:

Though we normally think of labs as being things that can only be done at school, many can be adapted for use at home. This homework assignment is an excellent example of such a lab.

When giving your students this assignment, make sure to emphasize the following:

- Goggles should be worn when doing these tests.
- Only materials which can be purchased at a supermarket should be used to conduct these tests. If they wish to see if something will react with an acid, they should use vinegar rather than concentrated battery acid.
- The item they choose should have no sentimental or intrinsic value. After all, you don't want Mom and Dad calling you to ask why the Ming vase was put in the oven at 450^o for 50 minutes.
- The item they choose shouldn't be alive. No tests on little sisters, brothers, parents, pets, or houseplants.

Projects like this are always fun to go over in class because some students will be very creative in the tests they perform. Make sure to give special attention to those students who really put a lot of effort into this project!