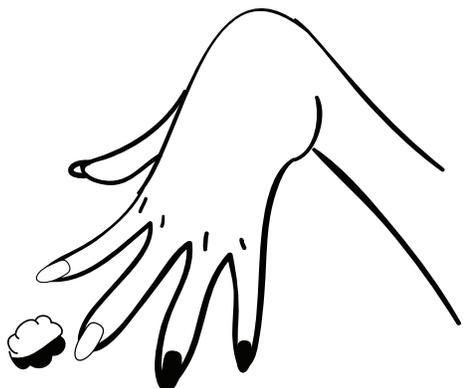


ToxMystery

Student Glossary



Acetone (n.) – A clear, strong smelling, flammable liquid.

Acetone can be found in nail polish remover; it is what helps take the nail polish off.

Antifreeze (n.) – A syrupy liquid that is bright green or yellow that prevents an engine from freezing during cold weather.

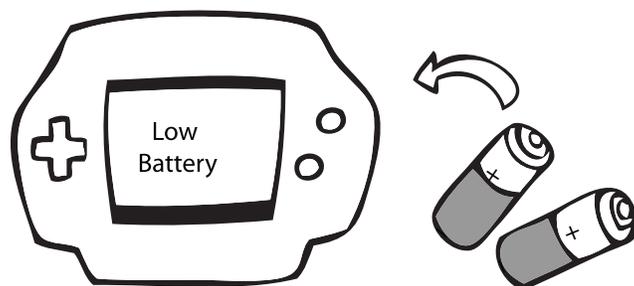
Antifreeze is put into car radiators so that the water in them does not freeze during the cold winter months.

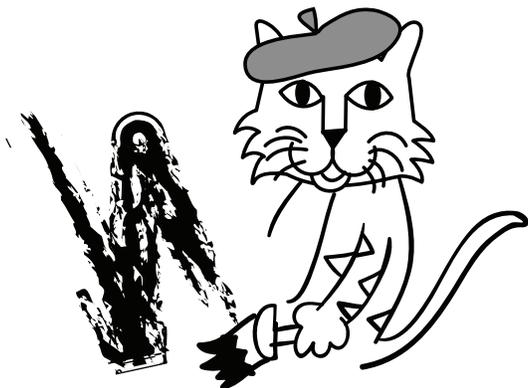


Arsenic (n.) – A white, tasteless powder that is poisonous.

Arsenic can be found in some pesticides and weed killers.

Batteries (n.) - Objects shaped like cylinders or rectangles that store chemical energy and make it available as electric current. They are put inside some household appliances and toys to make them work. Batteries are made with metals like mercury, lead, and nickel and range in size from large to very small. Swallowing batteries can make you sick.

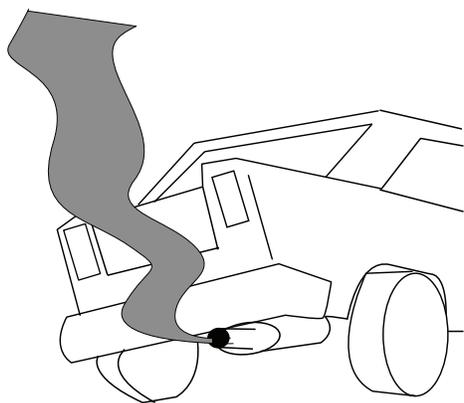




Benzene (n.) – A colorless, flammable liquid. Benzene can be found in glue and paint.

This chemical is found in nature but can also be man made.

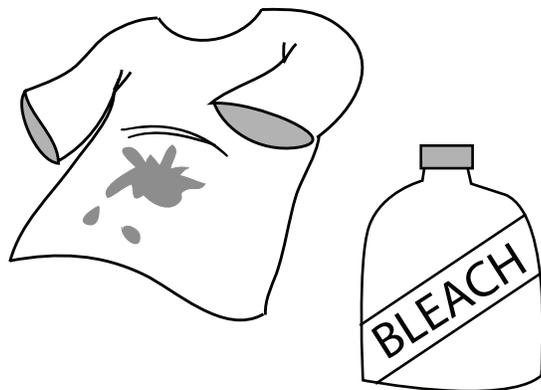
Carbon Dioxide (n.)- A colorless, odorless gas produced by burning coal, oil and gasoline. It also has a solid form called dry ice. Carbon Dioxide is found in fire extinguishers and aerosol cans. It can be very dangerous if you breathe it in.



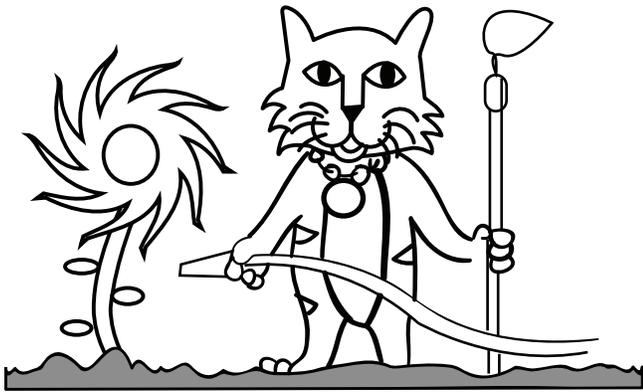
Carbon Monoxide (n.) – A colorless, tasteless and odorless gas that can make you sick if you are exposed to it in excess. Carbon Monoxide can be poisonous, but it is detectable with a Carbon Monoxide detector. It can be found in the exhaust fumes that come out of a car's tail pipe.

Chlorine (n.) – A greenish-yellow gas that can be found in bleaches and disinfectants.

Chlorine is used to help keep water and other things germ-free.



Chromium (n.) - Chromium is an odorless, naturally-occurring element found in several forms in rocks, animals, plants, soil, and volcanic dust and gases. Some forms of chromium in air or water can be harmful in high concentrations. Chromium compounds are used in paints, varnishes, glass color, and other products.

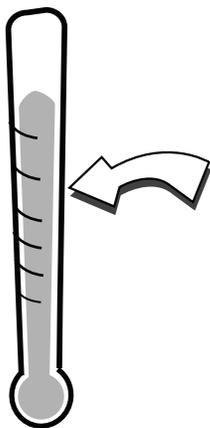
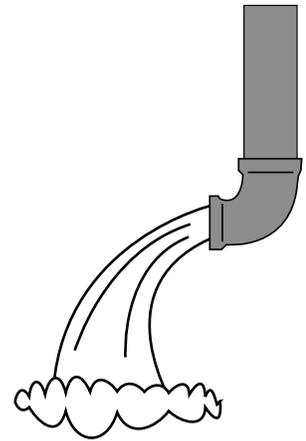


Fertilizer (n.) - A substance used to feed plants to help them grow bigger and faster.

Fertilizer is used on plants inside and outside the house to help them grow.

Lead (n.) – A soft, gray-white metal that can be found in the environment.

Lead was used to make pipes but is no longer used because it can leak into water from the pipes. Too much exposure can cause health problems.

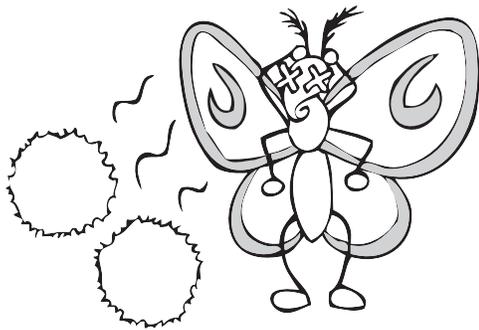
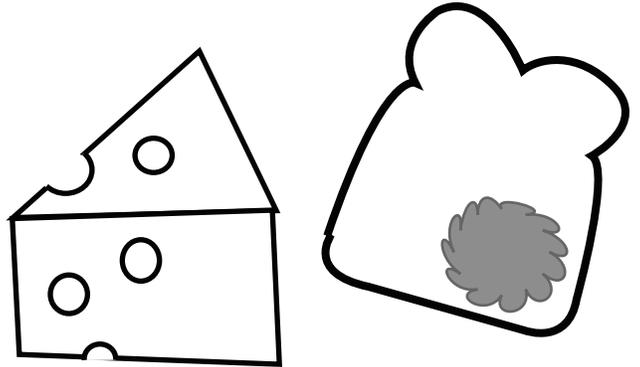


Mercury (n.) – An element that is a silvery-white liquid at room temperature.

Mercury is the silver substance that can be found inside old thermometers.

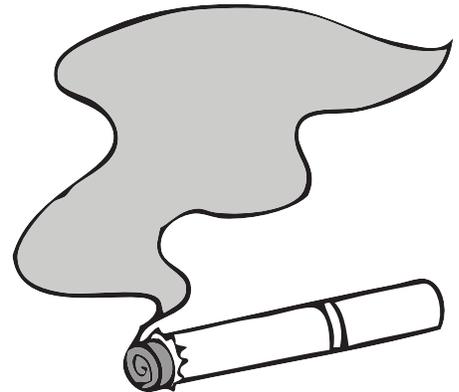
Mold (n.) – A fungus that grows because of decay or dampness.

Mold grows on rotting foods and can also grow in places that are damp and cannot dry out easily. Certain mold is edible; for example, the mold in some cheeses.



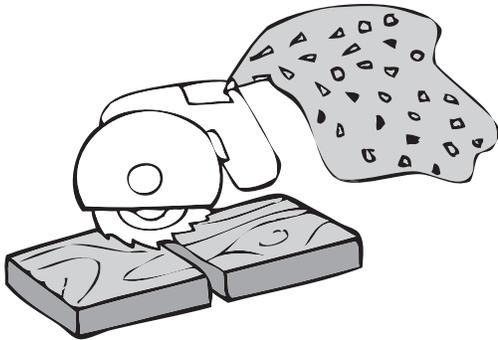
Mothballs (n.)- White, puffy balls that have a very strong, musty smell. They are put in places like closets or attics to help protect clothes and fabrics from moths and mold. The chemicals in mothballs can be harmful. Mothballs should be kept away from children and pets.

Nitrogen Oxides (n.)-. A group of gases made up of nitrogen and oxygen released into the air from burning gasoline, oil, natural gas, and coal. They are also in cigarette smoke and car exhaust. When they mix with other chemicals and sunlight they make smog.



Ozone (n.)- A gas that occurs naturally in the atmosphere, where it protects the earth from the sun's harmful rays. Ozone also forms at ground level when sunlight mixes with air pollution from cars and smoke from factories to make smog.

Paint Thinner (n.) - A strong-smelling liquid or gas solvent, which is something that dissolves or breaks down a substance. Paint thinner is used in paint to thin it down, making it easier to spread. It is also used to remove or clean up paint. Touching, breathing, or swallowing paint thinner can make you very sick.



Particulate Matter (n.) - The term for tiny particles found in the air. These particles include dust, dirt, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets. Breathing too much particulate matter is not good for your health. It can make you cough or have trouble breathing.

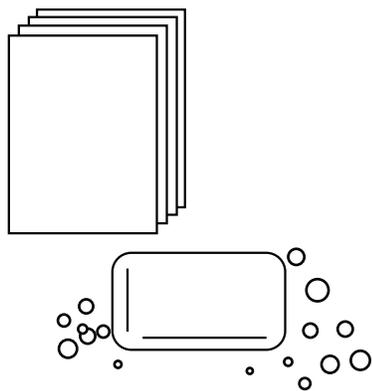
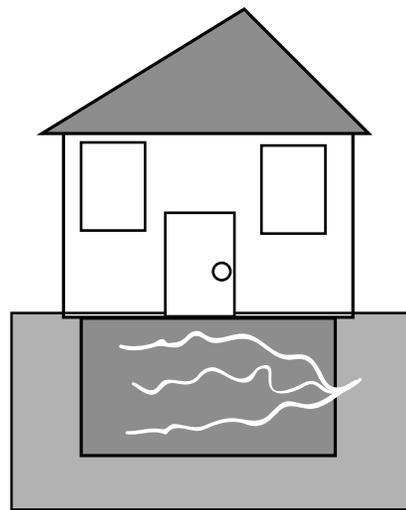
Pesticides (n.) – Any chemical substance that is used to kill or control any unwanted pests such as insects, rodents or weeds. Pesticides that are used to kill insects can be used on indoor or outdoor plants.



Phthalates (n.) - A family of chemicals used to soften and increase the flexibility of plastics and other products. They are in hundreds of consumer products.

Radon (n.) – An invisible, tasteless radioactive gas that can be found in some basements.

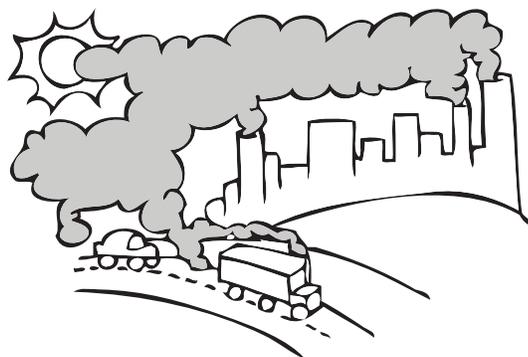
Radon can get into a basement from the soil that is underneath a house.



Sodium Hydroxide (n.) – A solid used to manufacture soap and paper.

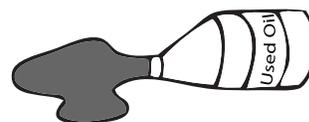
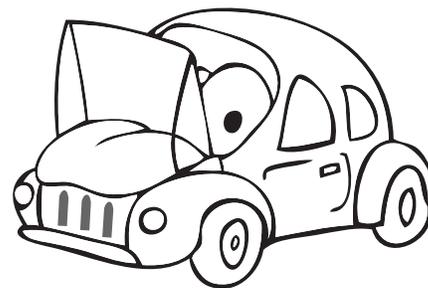
Sodium Hydroxide is found in some products that are used to clean drainpipes and ovens.

Sulfur Dioxide (n.)- A colorless gas that has a strong odor like a lit match. It can also take a liquid form and has an acidic taste. Sulfur dioxide is used to preserve some foods, and bleach things like fabric and wood.



Toluene (n.) – A clear liquid with a strong, sweet smell. Toluene is used in some glues and paints.

Used Motor Oil (n.)- Motor oil is a smelly, see-through brown liquid put in cars so the engine and parts work smoothly. Every three months or so, the used motor oil (now turned a dark-brownish color) is taken out of the car and fresh oil is put in. Used motor oil contains metals and other toxins that can seep into water sources and pollute drinking water if spilled or dumped on the ground.



Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) (n.)- Chemical compounds that can easily change from a liquid or solid into a gas. As a gas, they can enter the air, water and soil and cause harm. VOCs are found in paint, paint thinner, pesticides, cleaning products and cosmetics. Some are common air pollutants.