

SECTION 9: RIDING THE WIND

LAB

INTRODUCTION

For a substance to have a smell, tiny particles of that substance must enter the air. These particles are so small that they are invisible. When these particles reach the receptors in your nose, you smell a substance. You already know that liquids evaporate and that some liquids evaporate faster than others. The liquids that evaporate faster are easier to smell and you can smell them from farther away. Also, heating causes tiny particles of a substance to enter the air faster. Have you ever noticed how you can smell food cooking even when you are in another room? After particles of a substance have entered the air, they spread very easily through the air.

ASSESSMENT ANCHORS ADDRESSED

- S4.A.2.1** Apply skills necessary to conduct an experiment or design a solution to solve a problem.
- S4.C.1.1** Describe observable physical properties of matter.
- S4.A.3.3** Identify and make observations about patterns that regularly occur and reoccur in nature.

PURPOSE

In this activity, you will see how a breeze can make it easier to smell a substance.

MATERIALS

- 1 feather
- 6 balls: cotton, foam, glass, plastic, rubber, steel
- Index cards
- Journal page for Activity 1
- Safety pin