### **IDENTIFY AND CLASSIFY**

#### Hazardous Household Products



*Grade level* 4-12

#### Related subject areas

Environmental Science, Health, Family and Consumer Science

#### **Objective**

Students will identify hazardous products and their hazard categories using key words and phrases

#### Time

30 minutes

#### Equipment needed

Overhead or other projector, possibly a laminator

#### Materials

- Product Photos: Answer Key
- Product Photos one or two sets
- What words did you see...? transparency or class set
- How do you know if a product is hazardous? transparency
- Five Hazard Categories transparencies

#### Introduction

Hazardous household products have words that identify their specific hazard level and hazard category.

#### Preparation

- Print out one or two sets of the 41product photos, depending on the size of your class. Each group of three-four students will need at least six photos to work with.
- Cut out each photo (either around the edges of the product or as a rectangle) and glue onto card stock. For longer wear, laminate.
- Create "What words did you see...?" as either a transparency or other projected slide, or as a set of worksheets for each student/ group of students.
- Create "How do you know if a product is hazardous?" as a transparency or other projected slide.
- Create the five Hazard Categories as transparencies or other projected slides.

#### **Directions**

- **1.** Divide the class into groups consisting of three or four students.
- **2.** Give at least six different product photos to each group.
- 3. Ask each group to sort the photos into two piles, one of products they think are harmful and the other of products they think are safer. Ask them to remember what words on the labels make them think the products are harmful or safer.
- **4.** Use "What words did you see...?" either as a projected image for the whole class to fill in together or as a worksheet for individuals to fill in.
- **5.** Show the "How do you know if a product is hazardous?" transparency. Tell students that the words CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER or POISON are required by law to be on household products that are hazardous. The words can be used as a hazard rating system.

- **6.** Ask the groups to re-sort their product photos into three piles. Student results will vary depending on which images they have:
  - Highest hazard pile (product must say DANGER or POISON)
  - Moderate hazard pile (product must say CAUTION or WARNING)
  - Safer pile (product does not say CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER or POISON)
- 7. Show the Hazard Categories transparencies and review the terms and ideas.
- 8. Ask each student to choose a hazardous product (one that says CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER or POISON) from their piles and determine which hazard category their hazardous product fits into. Is it flammable, corrosive, reactive, toxic or an irritant? Some products are hazardous in more than one way.
  - After students know **how** their product is hazardous, this information can be shared with the rest of the class. For example, have students stand at the front of the class, or raise their product image, if their product is toxic. Continue through the rest of the hazard categories.
- **9.** As a check for understanding, have some students read their labels out loud to the rest of the class. Or, you might read labels from "real" products you have in the classroom. Have the rest of the class vote on whether they think the product is hazardous or not, and if it is hazardous, what level of hazard it is.

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### **PRODUCT PHOTOS** Answer Key

| Name of product                                  | Hazard level | Hazard Category *                |
|--|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 3 in One<br>Household Oil                        | D            | Toxic                            |
| Arm & Hammer<br>Baking Soda ▲                    | No C-W-D-P   | None                             |
| Bon Ami  | С            | Irritant                         |
| Brasso Metal<br>Polish                           | D            | Flammable,<br>Irritant, Toxic    |
| Bubbles  | No C-W-D-P   | None                             |
| Cascade<br>Automatic<br>Dishwashing<br>Detergent | С            | Irritant, Toxic                  |
| Castrol Brake<br>Fluid                           | D            | Toxic                            |
| Clorox Bleach                                    | D            | Corrosive                        |
| Comet Cleanser                                   | С            | Not clear from front of label    |
| Crayola Crayons                                  | No C-W-D-P   | None                             |
| Cutex  | W            | Flammable                        |
| Dow Heavy Duty<br>Oven Cleaner                   | D            | Corrosive, Toxic                 |
| Elmer's Glue-All                                 | No C-W-D-P   | None                             |
| Future Wax                                       | C            | Irritant                         |
| Gasoline   | D            | Flammable, Toxic                 |
| Heinz Cider<br>Vinegar ▲                         | No C-W-D-P   | None                             |
| Holiday<br>Household Insect<br>Fogger            | С            | Not clear from<br>front of label |
| Jasco Paint and<br>Epoxy Remover                 | D            | Irritant, Toxic                  |
| Johnson Lemon<br>Pledge                          | С            | Flammable                        |
| K2r Spot-lifter                                  | D            | Flammable,<br>Irritant, Toxic    |
| Krylon Interior/<br>Exterior Paint               | D            | Flammable,<br>Irritant, Toxic    |
| Liquid-Plumr                                     | D            | Corrosive, Toxic                 |
| Mill Creek Castile<br>Soap                       | No C-W-D-P   | None                             |
| Para Moth Balls                                  | С            | Not clear from front of label    |

| Nome of product                     | Hazard level | Hozord Cotogory *                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Name of product Parson's Ammonia    | C C          | Hazard Category *  Irritant, Toxic |
| Pine-Sol                            | W            | Irritant, Toxic                    |
| Prestone<br>Antifreeze              | W            | Toxic                              |
| Red Devil Lye                       | P            | Corrosive, Toxic                   |
| Rodda Masstone<br>Enamel            | D            | Toxic                              |
| Ronsonol Lighter<br>Fuel            | D            | Flammable, Toxic                   |
| Rubber Cement                       | D            | Flammable                          |
| Soft Scrub<br>Cleanser              | C            | Irritant                           |
| Spray-n-Wash                        | С            | Irritant                           |
| Sure Fire<br>Ultimate Roach<br>Trap | No C-W-D-P   | None                               |
| Tide                                | С            | Irritant, Toxic                    |
| Tilex                               | W            | Irritant                           |
| Turpentine                          | D            | Flammable, Toxic                   |
| Ultra Sheen                         | No C-W-D-P   | None                               |
| Ultra-Pure Candle<br>& Lamp Oil     | D            | Flammable, Toxic                   |
| WD-40                               | D            | Flammable, Toxic                   |

<sup>\*</sup> That can be seen on the front of the product photo. More information is often available elsewhere on a real product.

<sup>▲</sup> These food items can be used to create safer alternatives to hazardous household products. See activites in this series: Toxic-free Bingo and Concentration Game.

#### Notes:

Always read the front and back label of the actual product you are considering using or buying. These photos are only a practice set.

**These photos show only the front label**. Actual products could have much more information on the back label, including additional hazard categories. To simplify the learning, we categorized the product photos only by the information available on the front labels.

**Companies change their formulas frequently**, and thus, the hazard level or category may also change. As these photos become dated, they may not represent the current formulation of a product.

What is "reactive"? There are many different kinds of hazardous reactions. In a home, the most common reactive products are chlorine bleach and ammonia. If these products are accidentally mixed, they produce toxic gases. Products containing chlorine bleach or ammonia are "reactive" and will say on the back label "do not mix with other household products to avoid hazardous gases." This information is often not stated on the front label and your students will not have access to that information with this photo set.

Product Photos created by:



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as part of the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County

Alternative formats available. Call 206-263-3050 or 711 (TTY).

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PATENTED FORMULA

# Prestone

Antifreeze/Coolant

-84°

+276°

All Weather Protection

WARNING: HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED OR INHALED Read cautions on back label

1 GAL. (3.78L)



BHE STANDARD OF PUR

## **Baking Soda**



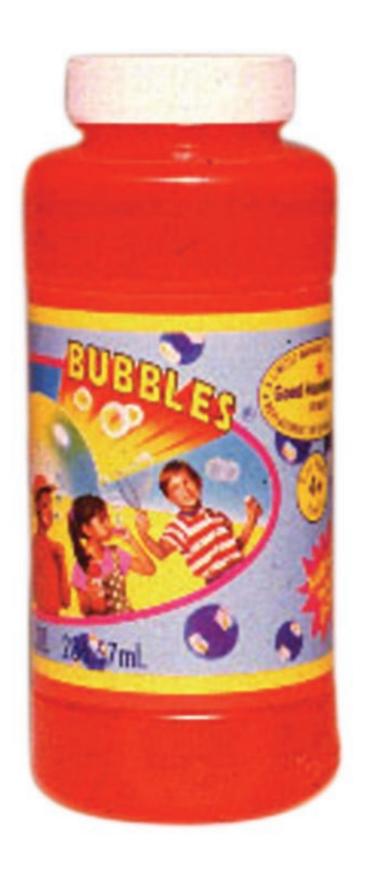
For Baking, Cleaning & Deodorizing

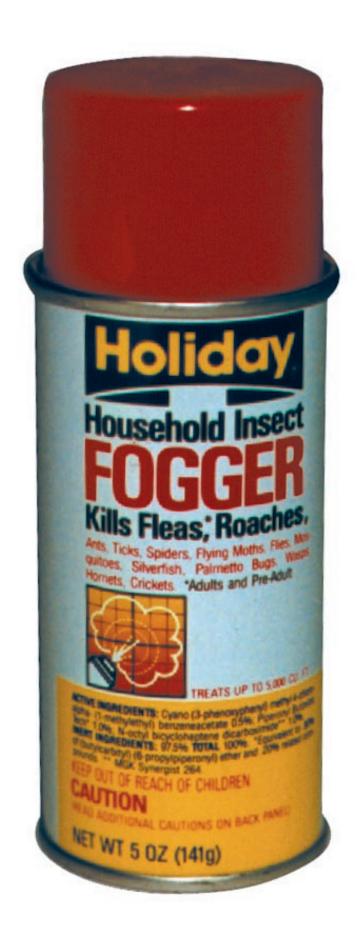
NET WT. 2 LB. (907 g)

















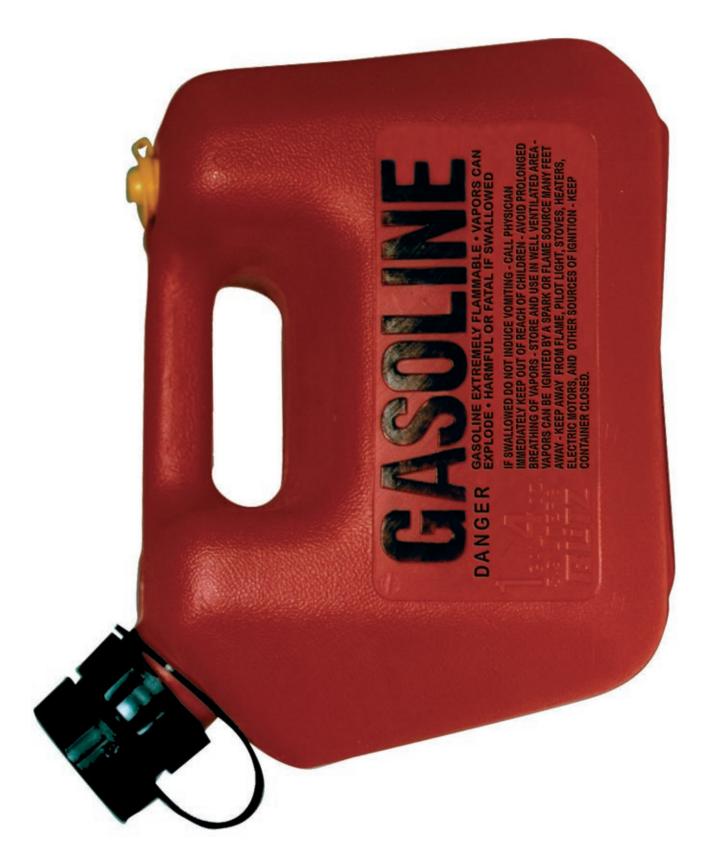




Now! FIGHTS SPOTS BATTER! AUTOMATIC DISHWASHING DETERGENT WITH SHEETING ACTION **OP** For Virtually Spotless Dishes CAUTION: HARMFUL IF SWALLOWED. EYE IRRITANT, SEE CAUTION ON SIDE PANEL. NET WT 35 OZ (2.18 LB) 992g



















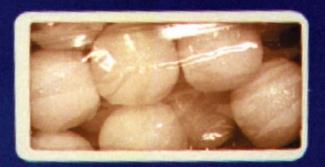








## PARA Moth Balls



### NO CLINGING ODORS

ACTIVE INGREDIENT:
PARADICHLOROBENZENE 99.6%
INERT INGREDIENTS: 0.4%
TOTAL: 100.0%

KILLS MOTHS AND CARPET BEETLES NET WT. 10 OZ. (283.4g)

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
CAUTION: SEE SIDE PANEL FOR ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS.









# PAINT & EPOXY REMOVER

WATER RINSABLE 0202

PROFESSIONAL • HOME • MARINE REMOVES ALL PAINTS • LATEX EPOXY • VARNISH NON-FLAMMABLE • NO NEUTRALIZING

32 FL. OZ. (1 QT.) .946 LITER

DANGER! MAY BE FATAL OR CAUSE BLINDNESS IF SWALLOWED VAPOR HARMFUL SKIN AND EYE IRRITANT Read Other Cautions and HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION on Back Panel









## THE ULTIMATE ROACH TRAP

Easy to use.

Kills roaches, waterbugs,
palmetto bugs and crickets.

No toxic chemicals.

Long-lasting!





Mata Cucarachas • Instrucciones en Español

Unconditionally Guaranteed, Made in USA. Another biorational product from Consep, Inc.











- · Cleans brushes and tools.
- Quality Assured

# Turpentine Steam Distilled

Pure Spirits.
Thins oil-based pair t and varnish.

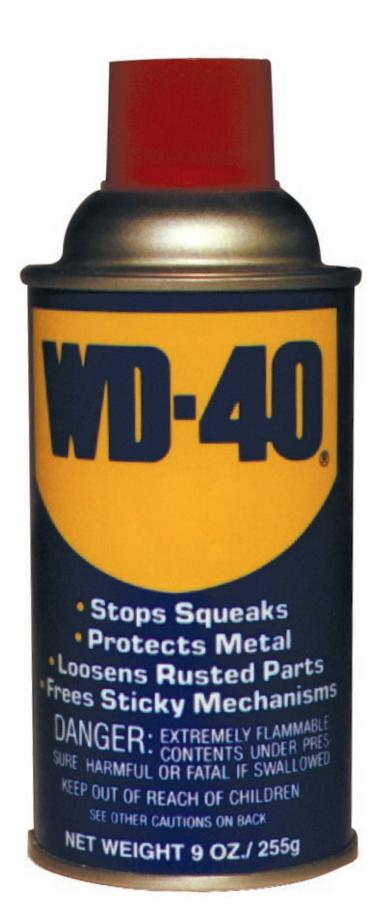
DANGER! FLAMMABLE.

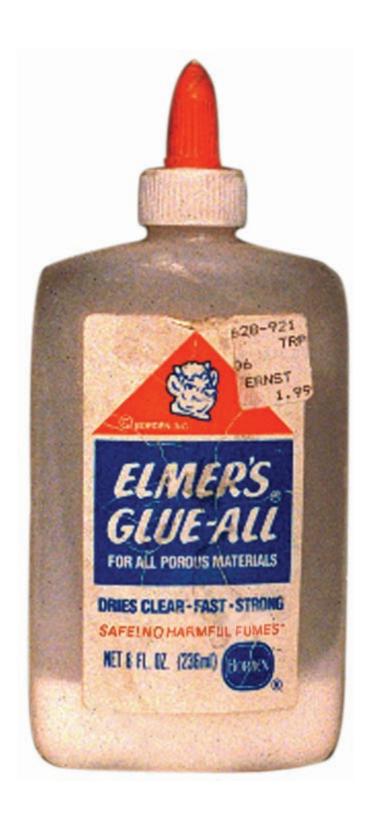
HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED. EYE IRRITANT.

Read other cautions on back panel.

32 FL. OZ. (1 QT.) .946 LITER







## What words did you see on the household products?



### How do you know if a product is hazardous?

Safer

Does not have CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER or POISON on the label

Moderate Hazard

**CAUTION or WARNING** 

Highest Hazard

DANGER or POISON

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#### **TOXIC:**

Can cause injury or death if swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin

Phrase to look for: Harmful or fatal if swallowed









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#### **CORROSIVE:**

Can wear away materials or burn living tissue by chemical action

**Phrases to look for:** Causes chemical burns; Injurious to skin and eyes









#### FLAMMABLE/COMBUSTIBLE:

Can catch fire at relatively low temperatures

Phrase to look for: Keep from heat or flame









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#### **REACTIVE:**

Can create a toxic gas if mixed with other products

Phrase to look for: Do not mix...



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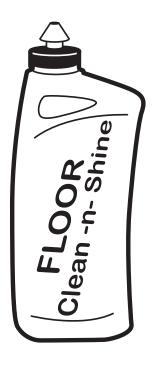
#### **IRRITANT:**

#### Can cause inflammation of living tissue on contact

#### Phrase to look for: Eye and skin irritant







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