# Thermal energy

Novice

* Heat can be a source of energy, or the byproduct of wasted energy.
* Higher temperature is indicative of faster molecular motion (Kinetic Molecular Theory of Heat).

Intermediate

* Awareness of processes that convert forms of energy (e.g., chemiluminescence).

Expert

* Solar cells are human-made devices that likewise capture the sun’s energy and produce electrical energy.
* When light or longer wavelength electromagnetic radiation is absorbed in matter, it is generally converted into thermal energy (heat). Shorter wavelength electromagnetic radiation (ultraviolet, X-rays, gamma rays) can ionize atoms and cause damage to living cells.
* Calculations involving conversion of forms of energy.

# Related NGSS

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| Grade Level | Student Performance Expectations |
| 3-5 | 5-PS1-1   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Develop a model to describe that matter is made of particles too small to be seen.** | |
| MS | MS-PS1-4   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Develop a model that predicts and describes changes in particle motion, temperature, and state of a pure substance when thermal energy is added or removed.** | |
| HS | HS-PS1-5   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Apply scientific principles and evidence to provide an explanation about the effects of changing the temperature or concentration of the reacting particles on the rate at which a reaction occurs.** | |

# Related CCSSM

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| Grade Level | Student Performance Expectations |
| 3-5 | **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**  Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to *decontextualize*—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to *contextualize*, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.  **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4 Model with mathematics.**  Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NBT.A.1**  Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and 1/10 of what it represents in the place to its left.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NF.B.7**  Apply and extend previous understandings of division to divide unit fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by unit fractions.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.MD.C.3**  Recognize volume as an attribute of solid figures and understand concepts of volume measurement.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.MD.C.4**  Measure volumes by counting unit cubes, using cubic cm, cubic in, cubic ft, and improvised units. |
| MS | **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.NS.C.5**  Understand that positive and negative numbers are used together to describe quantities having opposite directions or values (e.g., temperature above/below zero, elevation above/below sea level, credits/debits, positive/negative electric charge); use positive and negative numbers to represent quantities in real-world contexts, explaining the meaning of 0 in each situation. |
| HS | **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**  Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to *decontextualize*—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to *contextualize*, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSN.Q.A.1 Quantities**  Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSN.Q.A.3 Quantities**  Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities. |