

Physics > Big idea PMA: Matter > Topic PMA3: Energy of moving particles

Key concept (age 11-14)

PMA3.3: Specific latent heat

Learning focus	Specific latent heat (of a particular change of state) is the amount of energy needed to change the state of 1 kg of a substance without changing its temperature.				
As students' conceptual understanding progresses they can:	Describe the arrangement and movement of particles in a substance in the solid, liquid and gas states.	Use the particle model to describe what happens to a substance when it changes state.	Make and understand calculations using the equation E = m x L	Interpret a heating curve and explain physical changes to a substance that is heated from the solid state to the liquid state, or from the liquid state to the gas state.	Interpret a cooling curve and explain physical changes to a substance that is cooled from the gas state to the liquid state, or from the liquid state to the solid state.
Diagnostic questions	A particle model for the solid, liquid and gas states	Cheese on toast	Hidden energy	Boiling point	Freezing point
		Boiling water			
		The state of water		Melting point	
Response activities		The state we're in		Faster melting	

Key:

P Prior understanding from earlier stages of learning



