Activity 5.3: Organic vs Inorganic Worksheet

Use two different methods to sort the 12 materials on your materials cards into organic and inorganic materials.

A: Sorting based on properties you can see or the origins of materials. Sort the materials based on your knowledge of where they came from.

1. Organic materials. In this group you should include:
   a. Foods or materials made from foods.
   b. Fuels or materials made from fuels.
   c. Bodies of living things or materials made from the bodies of living things.

List the organic materials here.

2. Inorganic materials include materials that are not foods, fuels, or made from the bodies of living things. List the inorganic materials here.

B. Sorting based on bonds in molecules. Sort the materials based on the kinds of bonds they have in their molecules.

1. Organic materials. In this group you should include materials whose molecules have high-energy bonds: C-C and C-H. List the organic materials here.

2. Inorganic materials include materials whose molecules do not have C-C or C-H bonds. List the inorganic materials here.

C. Chemical energy. What is the difference in chemical energy between organic and inorganic materials?

D. Unknown liquid. How could you predict whether an unknown material—a clear liquid—will burn or not? What tests could you do or questions could you ask to predict whether it will burn?