



## *What's the Matter with My Orange?* *Background Information*



# *Physical vs. Chemical Change*

### *What is it?*

#### Physical Change

- The physical properties (the way it looks, smells, feels, etc.) may or may not change.
- The change may be reversible.
- A new substance *is not* produced.

#### Examples:

- cutting logs to make firewood
- falling leaves from a tree
- mining bauxite from the ground

#### Chemical Change

- The physical properties change.
- The change is not reversible.
- A new substance *is* produced.

#### Examples:

- burning firewood to make carbon and heat
- composting leaves into soil
- making aluminum from bauxite

### *How does it relate to this activity?*

The unjarred orange is physically changing as it dehydrates. The jarred orange is chemically changing as it decomposes into alcohol, nitrogen, and other matter.