Name: _____ Date: _____

Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

Circle group

Stir a spoon of salt into warm water. The salt seems to vanish. The water looks clear. Did the salt go away?

It did not. The salt broke into tiny pieces. They are too small to see. The pieces spread through the water. We say the salt dissolved. Salt and water make a solution. You can taste the salt, so it is still there.

Can you get the salt back? Yes. Pour a little salty water in a shallow dish. Put it on a sunny windowsill. Over a few days, the water turns into a gas and floats into the air. This is called evaporation. The salt does not evaporate this way. It stays. When the dish is dry, you see white salt crystals.

People use this idea. In some warm, dry places, sea water flows into flat ponds. The sun dries the water. The salt is left for people to collect.

Questions

1. What happens to salt in warm water?

_____

_____

2. What do salt and water make together?

_____

_____

3. How can you tell the salt is still in the water?

_____

_____

4. What is evaporation?

_____

_____

5. Why does the salt stay in the dish?

_____

_____

6. How do workers in some warm, dry places use this idea?

_____

_____

Words to know

dissolved: mixed into a liquid so evenly that it cannot be seen
solution: a mixture in which one thing is dissolved in another
evaporation: the change of a liquid into a gas
crystals: small hard pieces of a solid with flat sides

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

Triangle group

Stir a spoonful of salt into a glass of warm water. The salt seems to vanish. The water looks clear, just as it did before. Did the salt disappear?

It did not. The salt broke into pieces too tiny to see, and the pieces spread out evenly through the water. We say the salt dissolved. The mixture of salt and water is called a solution. You can taste the salt in it, which proves that it is still there.

Is there a way to get the salt back? Yes. Pour a little salty water into a shallow dish and set it on a sunny windowsill. Over a few days, the water slowly changes from a liquid into a gas that floats into the air. This change is called evaporation. The salt cannot evaporate in the same way, so it stays behind. When the dish is dry, you will see a thin crust of white salt crystals.

People use this same idea in the real world. In some warm, dry places, workers let sea water flow into wide, flat ponds. The sun dries the water away and leaves salt for people to collect and use in food.

Questions

1. What happens to salt when you stir it into warm water?

_____

_____

2. What is a mixture of salt and water called?

_____

_____

3. How can you tell the salt is still in the water even though you cannot see it?

_____

_____

4. What is evaporation?

_____

_____

5. Why does salt stay in the dish when the water evaporates?

_____

_____

6. How do workers in some warm, dry places use this idea?

_____

_____

Words to know

dissolved: mixed into a liquid so evenly that it cannot be seen
solution: a mixture in which one thing is dissolved in another
evaporation: the change of a liquid into a gas
crystals: small hard pieces of a solid with flat sides

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

Square group

Stir a spoonful of salt into a glass of warm water, and the salt appears to vanish. The water looks perfectly clear, exactly as it did before. Has the salt really disappeared?

In fact it has not. The salt has separated into pieces far too small to see, and those pieces have spread out evenly throughout the water. Scientists say that the salt has dissolved, and the resulting mixture of salt and water is called a solution. You can taste the salt in it, which confirms that the salt is still present.

Is there a way to recover the salt? There is. Pour a small amount of salty water into a shallow dish and place it on a sunny windowsill. Over several days, the water gradually changes from a liquid into a gas that drifts into the air, a process known as evaporation. The salt does not evaporate in the same manner, so it remains behind, and once the dish is completely dry you will find a thin crust of white salt crystals.

People apply this very principle in the real world. In certain warm, dry regions, workers allow sea water to flow into broad, flat ponds. The sun dries the water away and leaves behind salt that can be gathered and used in food.

Questions

1. What happens to salt when it is stirred into warm water?

_____

_____

2. What is a mixture of dissolved salt and water called?

_____

_____

3. How can you confirm that the salt is still in the water even though you cannot see it?

_____

_____

4. What is evaporation?

_____

_____

5. Why does salt remain in the dish after the water has evaporated?

_____

_____

6. How do workers in certain warm, dry regions apply this principle?

_____

_____

Words to know

dissolved: mixed into a liquid so evenly that it cannot be seen
solution: a mixture in which one thing is dissolved in another
evaporation: the change of a liquid into a gas
crystals: small hard pieces of a solid with flat sides

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

Easier · 152 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2

1. It dissolves into tiny pieces you cannot see.
2. A solution.
3. You can taste it.
4. When liquid water turns into a gas and floats into the air.
5. Salt does not evaporate like water, so it is left behind as crystals.
6. They let sea water dry in flat ponds and collect the salt left behind.

Triangle: Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

This passage · 196 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.7

1. It dissolves into pieces too tiny to see.
2. A solution.
3. You can taste it.
4. When liquid water changes into a gas and floats into the air.
5. The salt cannot evaporate the way water does, so it is left behind as crystals.
6. They let sea water dry in flat ponds in the sun and collect the salt left behind.

Square: Getting the Salt Back from Salty Water

Harder · 215 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.5

1. It dissolves into pieces too small to see.
2. A solution.
3. You can taste it.
4. The process by which liquid water changes into a gas and drifts into the air.
5. The salt does not evaporate the way water does, so it is left behind as crystals.
6. They let sea water dry in broad, flat ponds and gather the salt that is left.