

What is the Matter with Kitty?

1 One day, my dad **hung** a small white solid thing on the wall.

"What is it?" I asked. My dad answered, "It's an aromatic. Naphthalene inside it **takes away** bad smells." It really made a good smell.

5 Today I looked at the wall. But I could not see anything inside the aromatic! I thought, 'Where is it? Did Kitty eat it?' I was worried.



I ran to dad and asked, "Dad, can Kitty eat the naphthalene?"

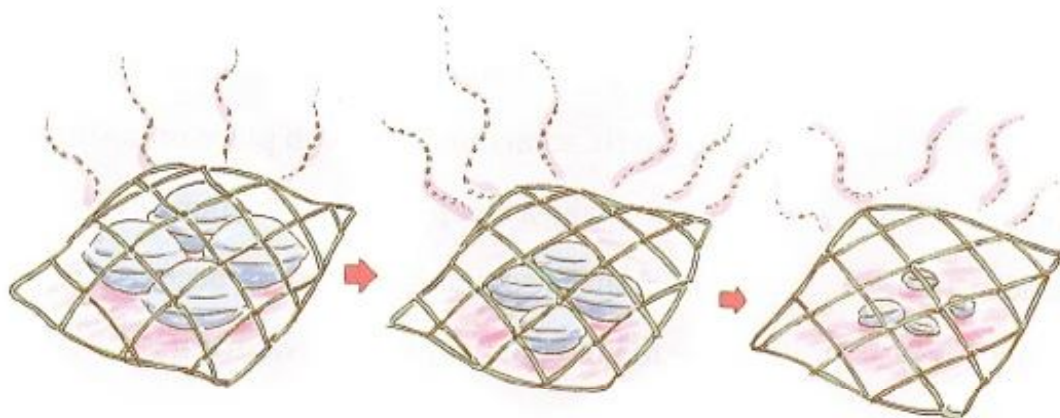
My dad said, "No. It is not something to eat." I wanted to cry. I did not want a sick cat.

"Kitty ate the naphthalene," I cried.

"Really? Did you see Kitty have it?"

"No, I didn't. But the naphthalene is gone." Dad smiled, and said, "Oh, dear. Don't cry. Kitty could not eat it. It was on the wall and she could not reach it. It has gone **naturally.**"

- 20 “Naturally?” “Yes. Ice becomes water and the naphthalene becomes gas. Therefore we cannot see it,” my dad said.



- “Matter may change its states. Look at this.” He **pointed** to a glass of water and kept saying, “You know that water is liquid. It can change to a solid when it is so cold that it **freezes**,” he said. “It’s ice, isn’t it?” I asked. “Yes. When the ice heated, it changes back into liquid as you know. Water also can change into gas. Now this water is in the glass. But tomorrow you will not see the water. It will **dry out** and go into the air. It is called **evaporation**. When liquid changes to gas, you can say the liquid evaporates. The naphthalene did **the same** but the naphthalene was solid. When a solid changes to gas and goes into the air, it is called **sublimation**.”

“I got it.” I **snapped** my fingers. Thanks to my dad, I learned something new and Kitty did not eat the naphthalene!

Vocabulary Build Up

A. Match the words to the correct definitions.

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| 1. hang | • | • to remove something |
| 2. take away | • | • by nature |
| 3. naturally | • | • to pass from a solid to a gas directly |
| 4. point | • | • to turn from liquid into gas |
| 5. freeze | • | • to become solid from cold temperatures |
| 6. dry out | • | • to fix something at a high place or position |
| 7. evaporate | • | • to make a sharp sound with your fingers |
| 8. the same | • | • to make something dry, or to become dry |
| 9. sublime | • | • to hold out your finger towards it |
| 10. snap | • | • exactly alike |

B. Choose the best words to fill in the blanks.

1. If you don't water the flowers, they will _____ soon.
(a) take away (b) dry out (c) turn off (d) put on
2. When water _____, it becomes water vapor.
(a) evaporates (b) sublimates (c) heats (d) takes away
3. It was very cold yesterday. The ground had _____ hard.
(a) frozen (b) evaporated (c) dried out (d) heated
4. We _____ silver bells on the Christmas tree every year.
(a) evaporate (b) snap (c) dry out (d) hang
5. Animals can learn to walk _____.
(a) lately (b) surprisingly (c) naturally (d) natural

Comprehension Check Up

A. Check True or False.

1. Kitty ate the aroma. ☐ T ☐ F
2. Matters may change their states. ☐ T ☐ F

B. Choose the best answers.

1. What is the main topic of the story?

(a) the naphthalene changing its state	(b) a new gift from Dad
(c) my cat's aromatic	(d) the water in the glass
2. What is an aromatic good for?

(a) cat's toy	(b) drying things	(c) becoming water	(d) taking away smells
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3. How does the child seem to feel at the end?

(a) sad	(b) wonderful	(c) worried	(d) bored
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4. Which of the following is true about evaporation and sublimation?

evaporation		sublimation
(a) solid to liquid	—	gas to solid
(b) gas to liquid	—	liquid to gas
(c) liquid to gas	—	solid to gas
(d) solid to gas	—	liquid to solid

C. Write the best answers.

1. Why was the child worried?

2. How did the aroma change its states?

Reading Skill Up

Inferring Information from a Story.

Information is facts about a thing. You can **infer** information about a thing from what happens to the thing in the story.

Read the story selections and write what you can infer about naphthalene from them. The answers might be repeated.

Story	Information you can infer
One day, my dad hung a small white solid thing on the wall.	
It's an aromatic. It takes away bad smells.	
My dad said, "No. It is not something to eat."	
It was on the wall and she could not reach it.	
It has gone naturally.	
The naphthalene did the same but the naphthalene was solid.	
When a solid changes to gas and goes into the air, it is called sublimation.	

- Naphthalene is white.
- You can remove bad smell with naphthalene.
- Naphthalene can go under sublimation.
- You can hang an aromatic on the wall.
- You cannot eat naphthalene.
- Naphthalene changes naturally.
- Naphthalene is solid.
- Naphthalene changes to gas.

Story Summary Up

Complete the summary by filling in the blanks.

ate dried learn naphthalene naturally out reach sublimation

I found that the _____ on the wall was gone. I thought Kitty _____ it so I was sad. But my father told me Kitty could not _____ it. He said that the naphthalene had gone _____. It _____ like water in a glass. He told me about evaporation and _____. I was happy to _____ something new and Kitty did not eat the aromatic.

Think and Act Out

Write or say your own opinions.

- What was the matter with Kitty?
- Think of a thing that changes its state. Explain how it changes.

