Teaching Entropy with Fun

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Abstract

The abstract nature of the quantity “entropy” as it is commonly taught can be regarded as obstacle to students’ understanding of chemical thermodynamics. Therefore, we propose a simpler approach to this basic quantity. It is firstly characterized by its typical and easily observable properties, i.e., by creating a kind of “wanted poster”, followed by a direct measuring procedure. Illustrative demonstration experiments help to improve understanding and to forge links to everyday experience.

References