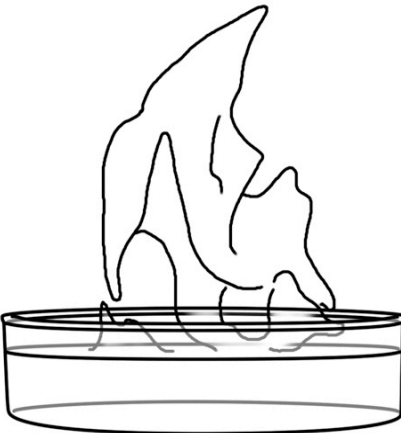


## 4.5 Explanations Tool: What Happens When Ethanol Burns?

**The Matter  
Movement  
Question**



**Draw and label** arrows that show molecules moving into, through, and out the flame when ethanol burns.

- Show and label molecules with carbon atoms
  - moving into the flame.
  - leaving the flame.
- Show and label other, relevant molecules.

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**The Matter  
Change  
Question**

Name the chemical change that happens when ethanol burns:  
Write the chemical equation for this change:

What molecules are carbon atoms in before the chemical change?

What other molecules are needed?

**Chemical  
Change**

What molecules are carbon atoms in after the chemical change?

What other molecules are produced?

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**The Energy  
Question**


What forms of energy are needed for this chemical change?

**Energy  
Transformation**

What forms of energy are produced by this chemical change?

**Explain in words:** What happens when ethanol burns? (Answer on the back).  
Use this Explanations Tool to help guide your written explanation, being sure to answer the Three Questions.

Remember: **Atoms last forever** (so you can arrange atoms into new molecules but can't add or subtract atoms).  
**Energy lasts forever** (so you can change forms of energy, but energy units can't appear or go away).



Systems and Scale Unit, Activity 4.5  
Carbon: Transformations in Matter and Energy 2019  
Michigan State University