

Section 2.4-Chemical Reactions

Chemical Change

- the composition of the matter changes
- is usually very difficult to reverse
- a new substance almost always results
- very often when one substance reacts WITH another one

reactants

-substances present at the start of a reaction

products

-substances present at the end of a reaction

reactants are chemically distinct from products

Possible clues to a chemical change

- transfer of energy (release or absorption)
- a change in colour
- production of a gas
- formation of a precipitate

Conservation of Mass

The mass of the products of any chemical reaction are always equal to the mass of the reactants involved in the reaction, once the reaction has gone 'to completion'.