

Curiosity: Why Does a Raindrop Hold Together?

Curiosity Reading | CheAI Research Inc.

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Connection: weather and materials

Reading time: 4 minutes

Surface tension is evidence that molecules attract each other. In water, the attraction between separate molecules is modeled with hydrogen bonding, while O–H covalent bonds are inside each molecule. Separating molecules requires energy; forming attractions releases energy. These ideas explain trends, not every property from one label alone.

Think like a chemist

1. Which interactions are broken during water evaporation?
2. Why is an O–H bond not a hydrogen bond between molecules?
3. What other evidence might affect boiling point?

Word	Meaning	Packet
dispersion	temporary attraction in all molecules	3, 7–10
hydrogen bonding	special between-molecule attraction	5, 8–9, 18–19
viscosity	resistance to flow	12