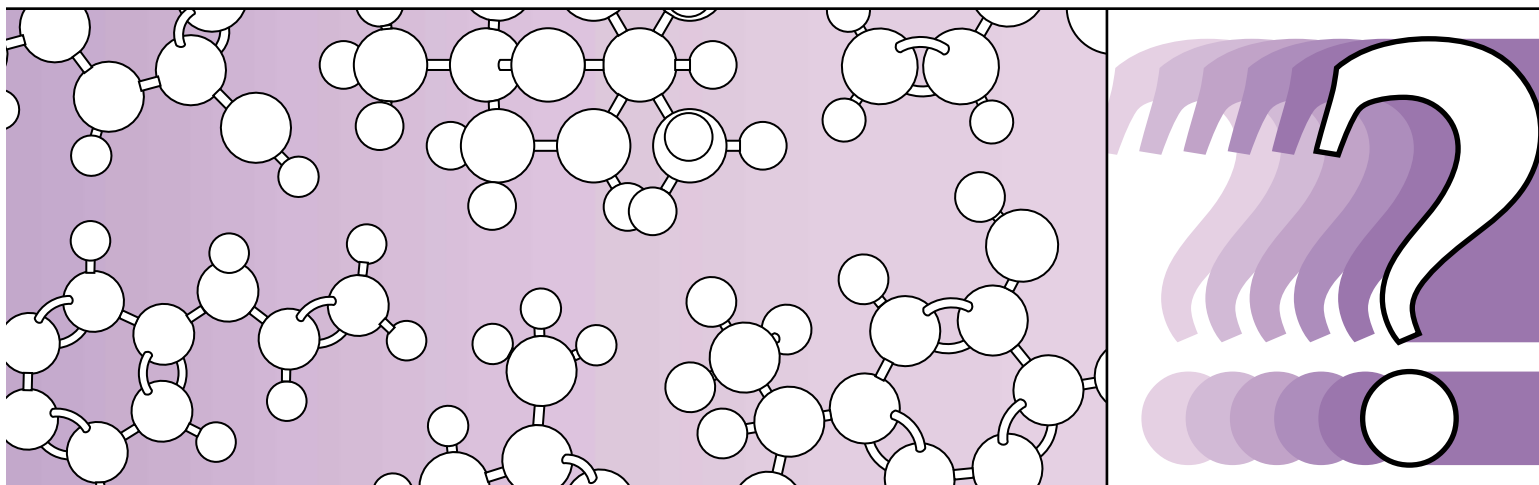


The Pfizer Foundation Biochemistry

Discovery Lab

**Molecules
can be smelly!**



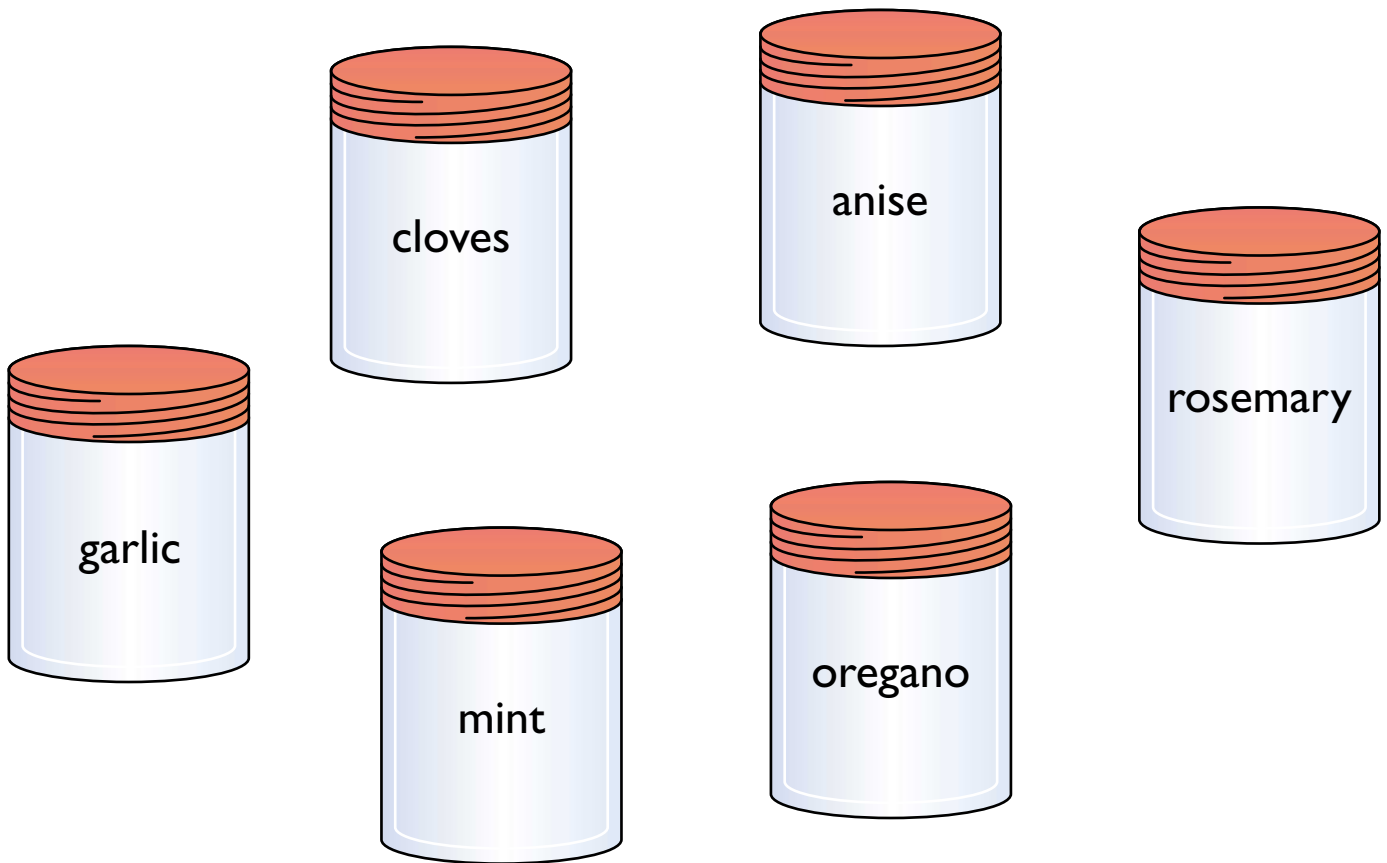
Have you ever wondered what smells are made of?

Smells are made of molecules.

Molecules are tiny particles that make up everything around us, including things that we can't see, like smells.

**Find out what molecules
are in the smells of
herbs and spices.**

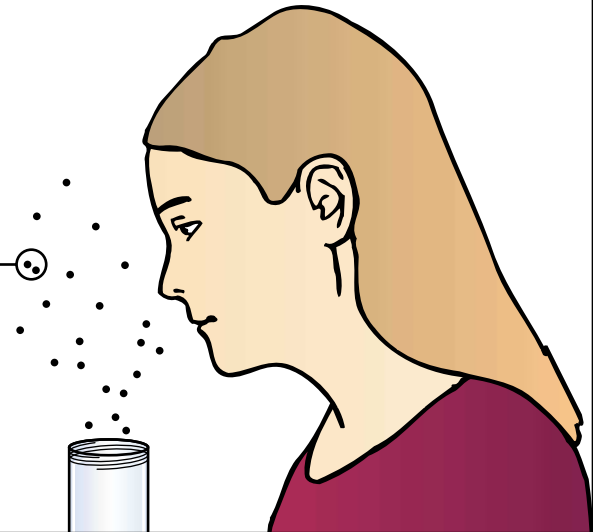
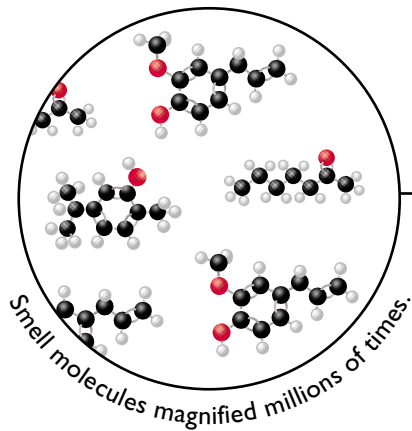
Smell each of the herbs and spices:



If you can't smell one of them right away, crush a few of the seeds or leaves in your hand to release more smell.

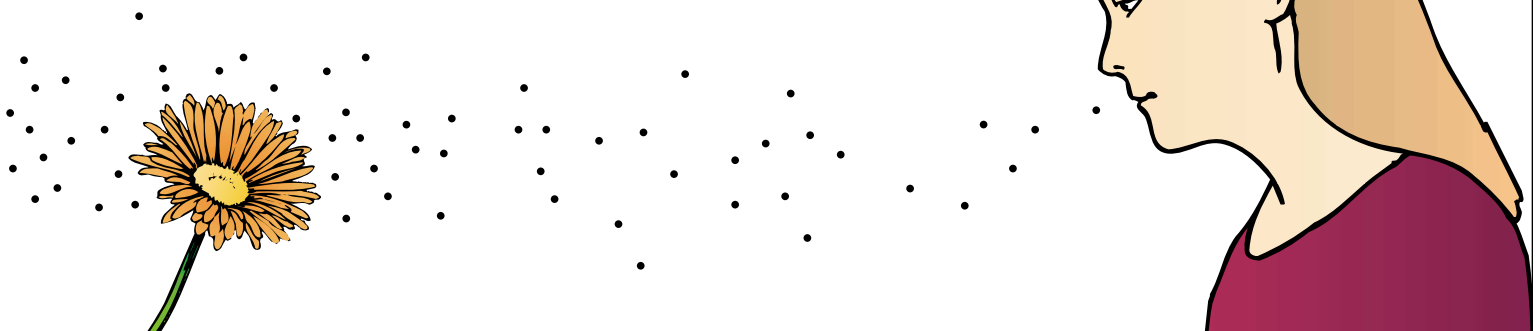
What makes the smell?

You can smell the herbs and spices because some of the molecules leaving the herb or spice go up your nose.



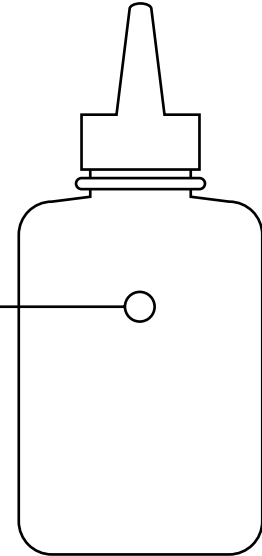
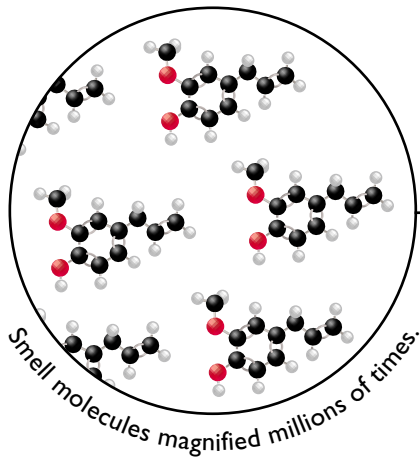
All smells are made of molecules.

Something has a smell when some of the molecules leaving it go up your nose, and interact with molecules in your nose.



Find out what molecules make the herbs and spices smell

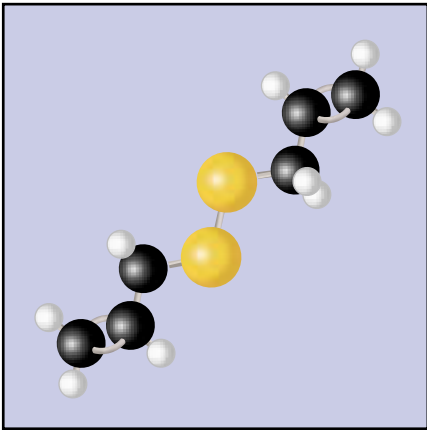
Each of the bottles contains one kind of smell molecule.



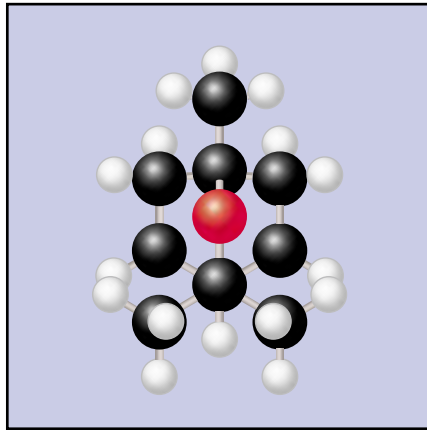
Squeeze and sniff the bottles of molecules.

Match each bottle of molecules with the herb or spice it smells most like.

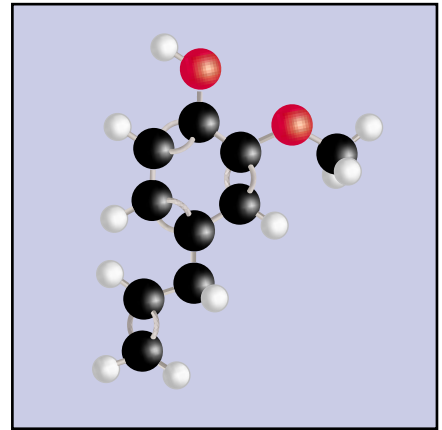
Lift the flap to find out which molecule is in the smell of each herb and spice.



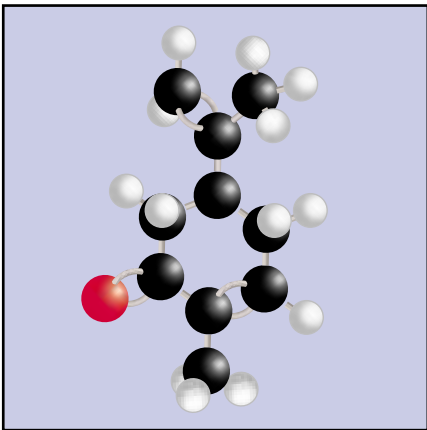
in garlic smell



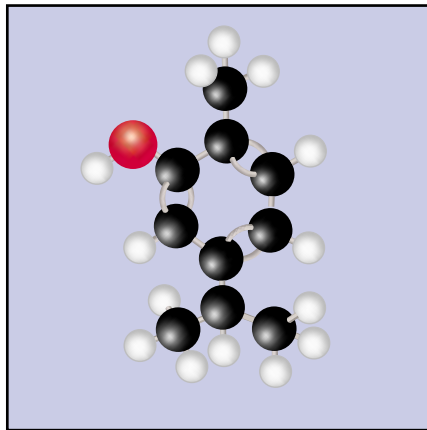
in rosemary smell



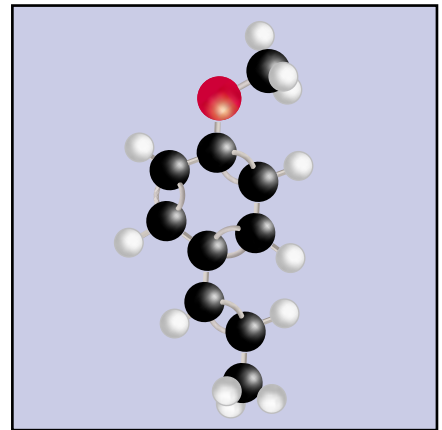
in clove smell



in mint smell



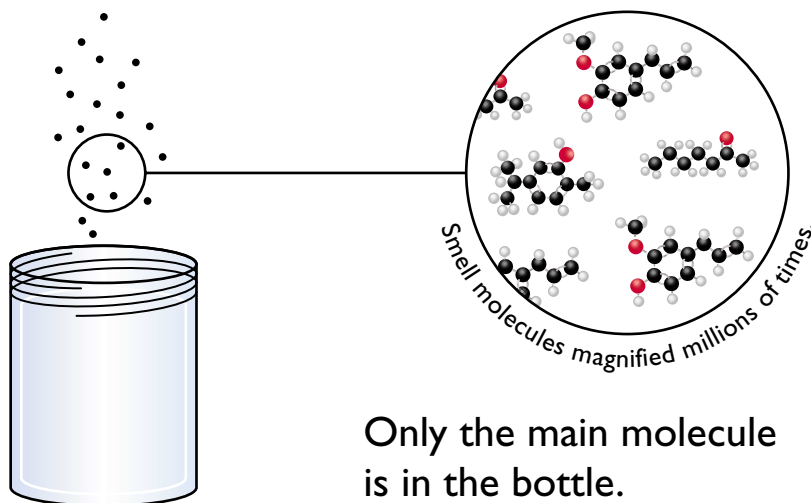
in oregano smell



in anise smell

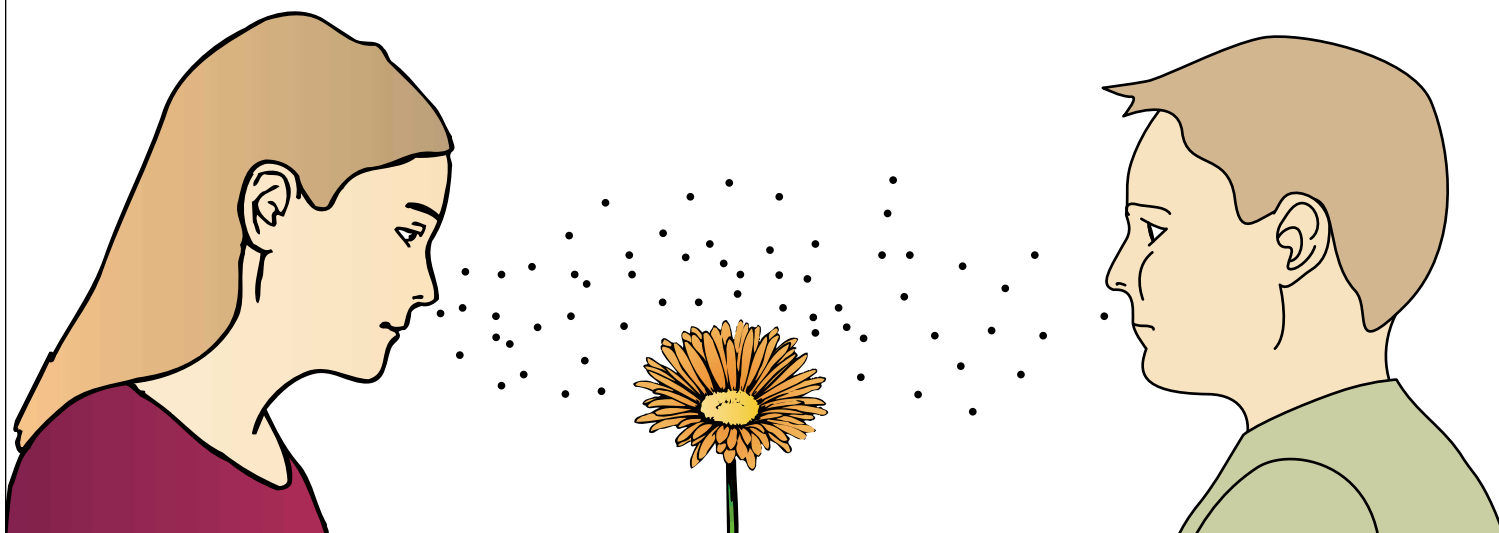
The molecule in the bottles probably did not smell exactly like the herbs and spices.

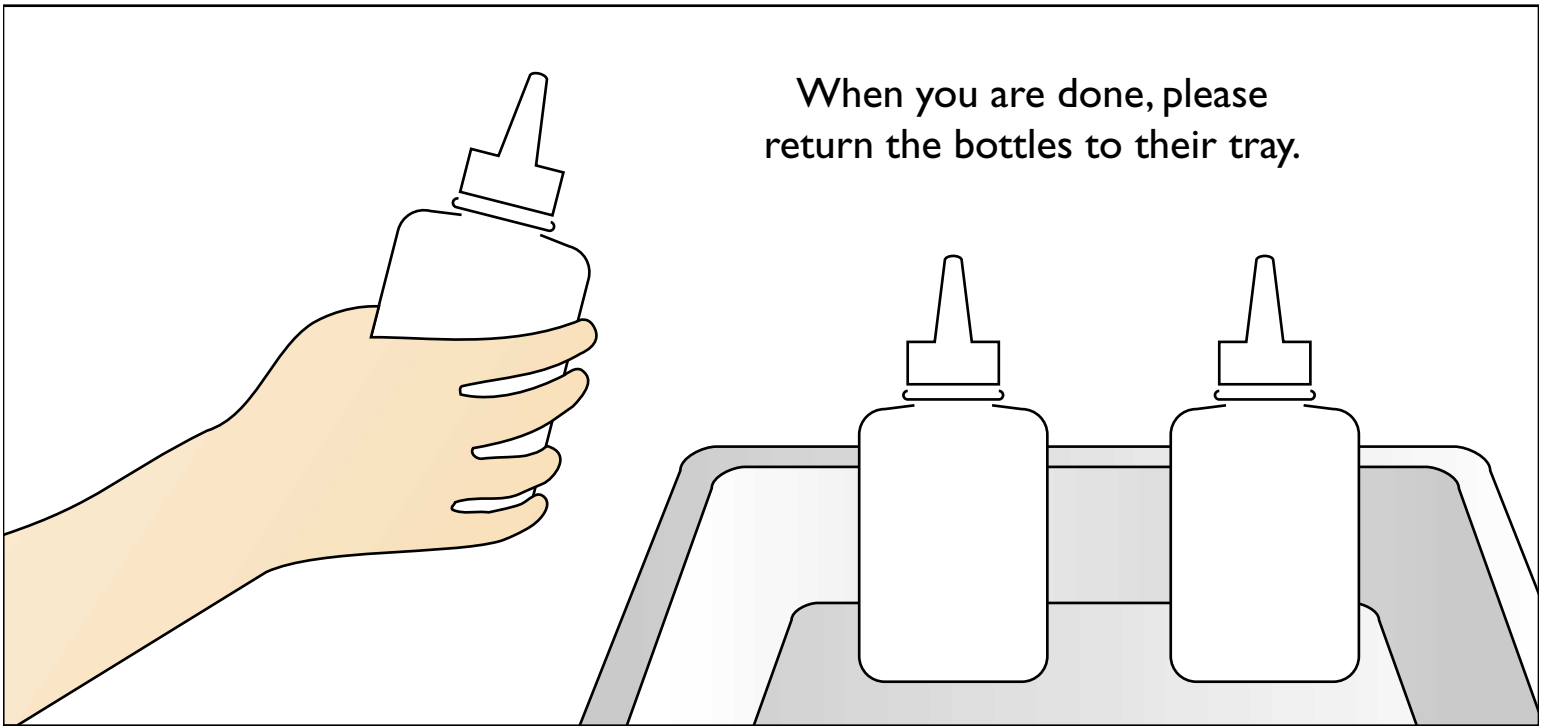
This is because the smells from the herbs/spices are mixtures of many molecules.



Most smells are complex mixtures of many molecules ...

... so smells often mean something quite different to each of us.





When you are done, please
return the bottles to their tray.

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