

physical science study guide answers 7th grade Updated Version

Physical Science Study Guide Answers 7th Grade

Understanding physical science is a vital part of a 7th-grade science curriculum. It introduces students to the fundamental concepts of matter, energy, motion, and the physical laws that govern our universe. A comprehensive study guide helps students grasp these concepts more effectively, providing answers to common questions and practice problems they might encounter in class. This article aims to serve as an in-depth resource for 7th-grade students seeking clear explanations, practice tips, and a thorough review of key topics in physical science.

What is Physical Science?

Definition of Physical Science

Physical science is a branch of natural science that studies non-living systems, focusing on the properties and interactions of matter and energy. It combines elements of physics and chemistry to explain how the universe operates.

Main Branches of Physical Science

- **Physics:** The study of matter, energy, motion, and forces.
- **Chemistry:** The study of substances, their properties, and how they interact and change.

Key Concepts in 7th Grade Physical Science

1. Matter and Its Properties

Matter is anything that has mass and takes up space. It exists in different states and has various properties.

States of Matter

- Solid
- Liquid

- Gas

Properties of Matter

- Color
- Hardness
- Melting Point
- Boiling Point
- Density

2. Atoms and Elements

Atoms are the smallest units of matter that retain the properties of an element.

Basic Structure of an Atom

- Protons (positive charge)
- Neutrons (no charge)
- Electrons (negative charge)

Elements

- Pure substances made of only one type of atom.
- The periodic table organizes all known elements.

3. Mixtures and Solutions

- Mixtures consist of two or more substances physically combined.
- Solutions are a type of mixture where one substance dissolves in another (e.g., salt in water).

4. Laws of Motion and Force

Inspired by Sir Isaac Newton's work, these laws describe how objects move.

Newton's Three Laws of Motion

- **First Law:** An object at rest stays at rest, and an object in motion stays in motion unless acted upon by an external force.
- **Second Law:** Force equals mass times acceleration ($F=ma$).
- **Third Law:** For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

5. Energy

Energy is the capacity to do work and exists in various forms.

Types of Energy

- Kinetic Energy
- Potential Energy
- Thermal Energy
- Electrical Energy

Conservation of Energy

Energy cannot be created or destroyed; it only changes from one form to another.

6. Simple Machines

Simple machines make work easier and include:

- Lever
- Pulley
- Inclined Plane
- Wheel and Axle
- Wedge
- Screw

Common Practice Questions and Their Answers

1. What are the three states of matter, and how do they differ?

The three states of matter are solids, liquids, and gases. Solids have a fixed shape and volume, with particles tightly packed. Liquids have a fixed volume but take the shape of their container, with particles that are less tightly packed and can slide past each other. Gases have neither fixed shape nor volume; particles are far apart and move freely.

2. How can you identify an element on the periodic table?

Elements are identified by their chemical symbols (e.g., H for hydrogen, O for oxygen). Each element has a unique symbol and atomic number, which indicates the number of protons in its nucleus.

3. Describe Newton's First Law of Motion with an example.

Newton's First Law states that an object will stay at rest or in uniform motion unless acted upon by an external force. For example, a soccer ball remains stationary until kicked or pushed.

4. What is the difference between kinetic and potential energy?

Kinetic energy is the energy of motion (e.g., moving car), while potential energy is stored energy based on position or condition (e.g., water held behind a dam).

5. Name and explain the function of at least two simple machines.

A lever is a rigid bar that pivots around a fulcrum, used to lift heavy objects with less effort. A pulley uses a wheel and a rope to change the direction of force, making lifting easier.

Study Tips for 7th Grade Physical Science

1. Review Class Notes Regularly

Consistently reviewing notes helps reinforce understanding and retention of concepts.

2. Practice with Sample Problems

Working through practice questions and problems is essential to mastering the material.

3. Use Visual Aids

Diagrams, charts, and models can help visualize complex topics like atomic structure and energy transfer.

4. Relate Concepts to Real-Life Examples

Connecting science concepts to everyday experiences makes them more understandable and memorable.

5. Form Study Groups

Studying with peers allows for discussion, clarification of doubts, and sharing of different problem-solving approaches.

How to Find Accurate Study Guide Answers

Official Textbooks and Class Materials

Always refer to your class textbook and notes for the most accurate information.

Educational Websites and Resources

Websites like Khan Academy, National Geographic Education, and Science Buddies offer reliable explanations and practice quizzes.

Ask Your Teacher

Don't hesitate to seek clarification from your science teacher if you find any concepts confusing.

Practice Quizzes and Flashcards

Use online or physical flashcards to reinforce key terms and concepts.

Conclusion

A thorough understanding of physical science at the 7th-grade level forms a strong foundation for future science studies. By utilizing study guides and their answers effectively, students can develop confidence and competence in mastering core topics such as matter, energy, forces, and simple machines. Remember, consistent practice, active engagement, and seeking help when needed are the keys to success. With the right resources and a diligent approach, mastering physical science is an achievable goal that will serve as a stepping stone for more advanced scientific learning.

Physical Science Study Guide Answers 7th Grade: An In-Depth Expert Review

In the journey of middle school education, physical science stands out as a foundational subject that unlocks understanding of the natural world. For 7th-grade students, mastering this subject can sometimes feel overwhelming, especially when it comes to studying for tests or completing coursework. This is where a comprehensive study guide becomes an invaluable resource. In this article, we will explore the key features, benefits, and critical components of a 7th-grade physical science study guide, with a focus on answers and explanations that truly enhance understanding.

Understanding the Importance of a 7th Grade Physical Science Study Guide

Before diving into specifics, it's essential to recognize why a dedicated study guide is so crucial at this educational stage.

Why Use a Study Guide?

- **Structured Learning:** A well-designed study guide organizes complex concepts into manageable sections, aiding retention.
- **Focused Practice:** It highlights key topics and questions likely to appear on assessments, ensuring targeted revision.
- **Confidence Building:** Having clear answers and explanations reduces anxiety and promotes self-assurance.
- **Supplement to Classwork:** It acts as a reliable reference when reviewing lessons or completing homework.

The Role of Answers in a Study Guide

Answers serve as a vital component, providing clarity and immediate feedback. They help students:

- Confirm their understanding
- Correct misconceptions
- Reinforce learning through explanation

Key Components of a 7th Grade Physical Science Study Guide

A comprehensive study guide for 7th-grade physical science should encompass several core areas. Let's examine each in detail.

- **Matter and Its Properties**

Overview: Matter is everything around us. Students learn about its states, properties, and how it changes.

Major Topics Covered:

- States of Matter: solids, liquids, gases, and plasma
- Physical Properties: color, density, mass, volume, boiling/melting points
- Physical Changes: melting, freezing, vaporization, condensation
- Chemical Changes: reactions, formation of new substances

Sample Study Guide Answer Explanation:

Question: What is the difference between a physical change and a chemical change?

Answer: A physical change alters the form or appearance of a substance without changing its identity (e.g., melting ice). A chemical change results in the formation of new substances with new properties (e.g., burning wood).

Expert Tip: Look for questions that ask you to identify whether a given process is physical or chemical, and understand the signs of chemical reactions.

- Forces and Motion

Overview: This section explores how objects move and what causes movement.

Major Topics Covered:

- Speed, Velocity, and Acceleration
- Newton's Laws of Motion: inertia, $F=ma$, action-reaction
- Friction and Gravity
- Simple Machines: levers, pulleys, inclined planes

Sample Study Guide Answer Explanation:

Question: How does friction affect the motion of an object?

Answer: Friction opposes the motion of an object, making it harder to move or stop. It can be beneficial (like brakes) or a source of resistance.

Expert Tip: Practice questions that require calculating speed or explaining the effects of forces to reinforce understanding.

- Energy and Its Forms

Overview: Energy is a core concept that explains how things move and change.

Major Topics Covered:

- Types of Energy: kinetic, potential, thermal, chemical, electrical, nuclear
- Law of Conservation of Energy
- Energy Transformations: potential to kinetic (e.g., roller coaster)
- Sources of Energy: renewable vs. nonrenewable

Sample Study Guide Answer Explanation:

Question: What is an example of energy transformation?

Answer: When a ball at the top of a hill rolls down, potential energy converts into kinetic energy.

Expert Tip: Focus on understanding real-world examples of energy conversions and how energy is conserved in different systems.

- Waves and Sound

Overview: This section introduces waves, their properties, and how they produce sound.

Major Topics Covered:

- Types of Waves: transverse and longitudinal
- Wave Properties: wavelength, frequency, amplitude, speed
- Sound: how it travels through mediums, pitch, volume
- Light and Electromagnetic Spectrum: visible light, reflection, refraction

Sample Study Guide Answer Explanation:

Question: How does the wavelength of a wave relate to its frequency?

Answer: Wavelength and frequency are inversely related; as wavelength increases, frequency decreases, and vice versa.

Expert Tip: Practice with diagrams and real-world examples to grasp wave behaviors.

- Earth and Space Science

Overview: Understanding our planet and the universe is vital for comprehensive physical science knowledge.

Major Topics Covered:

- Layers of Earth: crust, mantle, core
- Plate Tectonics: earthquakes, volcanoes, continental drift
- Sun, Moon, and Earth Relationships: phases, eclipses
- Solar System: planets, moons, asteroids

Sample Study Guide Answer Explanation:

Question: Why do earthquakes occur along faults?

Answer: Earthquakes happen because of the movement of tectonic plates along faults, releasing energy stored in the Earth's crust.

Expert Tip: Use diagrams to visualize Earth's layers and plate boundaries for better understanding.

How to Use the Study Guide Effectively

To maximize the benefits of a physical science study guide, students should adopt strategic study habits.

Tips for Success:

- Review Regularly: Don't wait until the last minute; consistent review helps retention.
- Self-Testing: Use the answer key to test your knowledge and identify weak areas.
- Understand, Don't Memorize: Focus on grasping concepts rather than rote memorization.
- Ask Questions: When answers are unclear, seek clarification from teachers or resources.
- Use Visual Aids: Diagrams, charts, and models enhance understanding of complex topics.

Pros and Cons of Study Guide Answers

Advantages:

- Instant feedback helps correct mistakes immediately.
- Clarifies difficult concepts through detailed explanations.
- Saves time during revision by summarizing key points.

Potential Drawbacks:

- Over-reliance on answers may hinder independent problem-solving.
- If answers are incorrect or poorly explained, misconceptions can form.
- Students must ensure they understand the reasoning behind answers, not just memorize them.

Expert Recommendation: Use the study guide answers as a supplement, not a substitute, for active learning and class participation.

Conclusion: Is a Study Guide with Answers Worth It for 7th Graders?

Absolutely. A well-crafted physical science study guide with accurate answers and clear explanations is a powerful tool that can boost understanding, confidence, and academic performance. When used thoughtfully, it promotes active learning, helps clarify complex concepts, and prepares students effectively for assessments.

However, students should balance using this resource with hands-on experiments, classroom participation, and seeking help when needed. Remember, the goal isn't just to find the right answers but to develop a deep understanding of the physical world around us.

Final Thoughts: Embrace the study guide as your personal science toolkit—an essential resource that guides you through the fascinating realm of physical science, turning challenging concepts into manageable knowledge. Happy studying!

Question What are the main topics covered in a 7th grade physical science study guide?
Answer A 7th grade physical science study guide typically covers topics such as matter and its properties, basic chemistry, motion and forces, energy, and simple machines. How can I effectively use a 7th grade physical science study guide to prepare for exams? Use the study guide to review key concepts, create flashcards for important definitions, practice answering end-of-chapter questions, and summarize each topic in your own words to reinforce understanding. Where can I find reliable answers for a 7th grade physical science study guide? Reliable answers can be found in your class textbook, educational websites like Khan Academy, or by consulting your science teacher and classmates for clarification. What are some common mistakes to avoid when studying physical science for 7th grade? Common mistakes include neglecting to review key vocabulary, skipping practice questions, not understanding basic concepts before moving on, and relying solely on memorization without comprehension. How can I improve my understanding of physical science

concepts using a study guide? Enhance understanding by actively engaging with the material?such as drawing diagrams, doing hands-on experiments if possible, asking questions, and discussing concepts with classmates or teachers.

Related keywords: 7th grade science, physical science questions, science study guide, science answers, middle school physics, chemistry review, science homework help, science concepts, science test preparation, educational resources

Isaac Asimov Great Science Writers

Isaac Asimov Great Science Writers: A Legacy of Scientific Literacy and Imagination

Isaac Asimov is widely recognized as one of the most influential and prolific science writers of the 20th century. His contributions to popular science, science fiction, and education have left an indelible mark on both the scientific community and the general public. As a towering figure among great science writers, Asimov's ability to communicate complex scientific ideas with clarity, enthusiasm, and wit has inspired countless readers and shaped public understanding of science. This article explores the life, works, and enduring legacy of Isaac Asimov as a great science writer, highlighting his influence on science communication and his contributions to science literature.

Early Life and Background

Born on January 2, 1920, in Petrovichi, Russia, Isaac Asimov emigrated with his family to the United States at a young age. Settling in Brooklyn, New York, Asimov developed an early fascination with reading and learning. His passion for science and literature grew rapidly, leading him to pursue biochemistry at Columbia University, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1948. This scientific background provided the foundation for his later writings, allowing him to interpret and communicate scientific principles with authority and insight.

Isaac Asimov as a Great Science Writer

Bridging Science and the Public

One of Asimov's greatest strengths was his ability to bridge the gap between complex scientific research and everyday understanding. He believed that science should be accessible and enjoyable, and he dedicated much of his career to making science comprehensible to the general public. His writing style combined clarity with enthusiasm, often infusing humor and storytelling to captivate readers.

Prolific Output and Range of Topics

Isaac Asimov authored over 500 books and numerous essays, covering a vast array of subjects beyond science, including history, religion, literature, and philosophy. His extensive bibliography demonstrates his versatility and commitment to education. Among his most notable works are science books such as *The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science*, *Asimov's New Guide to Science*, and *Understanding Physics*.

Key Qualities of Asimov's Science Writing

- **Clarity:** Simplifying complex ideas without losing essential details.
- **Engagement:** Using storytelling, anecdotes, and humor to draw readers in.
- **Accuracy:** Maintaining scientific integrity and rigor in explanations.
- **Inspiration:** Encouraging curiosity and critical thinking about science.

Major Works and Contributions

Popular Science Books

Isaac Asimov's popular science books are considered classics in science communication. Some of his most influential titles include:

- **The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science (1960):** An extensive overview of scientific principles and discoveries, designed for the layperson.
- **Asimov's New Guide to Science (1984):** An updated, comprehensive survey of scientific knowledge spanning physics, chemistry, biology, and astronomy.
- **Understanding Physics (1966):** An accessible introduction to the fundamental principles of physics, written in a clear and engaging style.
- **Understanding Chemistry (1977):** Simplifies complex chemical concepts for general readers.

Science Fiction and Its Role in Science Communication

While best known for his science fiction, Asimov's stories often reflected his scientific knowledge and curiosity. His *Foundation* series and *Robot* series not only entertained but also explored themes like robotics, artificial intelligence, and societal evolution?topics that continue to be relevant today. His fiction served as a vehicle to stimulate interest in science and technology among readers worldwide.

Educational and Reference Works

In addition to books for general audiences, Asimov authored textbooks and reference materials used in academic settings. His clear explanations and systematic approach have made his works valuable educational resources.

Impact and Legacy

Influence on Science Communication

Isaac Asimov revolutionized the way science is communicated. His ability to translate scientific jargon into engaging narratives inspired future generations of science writers, educators, and communicators. His works helped foster scientific literacy and skepticism, encouraging society to value evidence-based reasoning.

Inspiration for Future Writers

Many contemporary science writers cite Asimov as a primary influence. His success demonstrated that scientific topics could be made accessible and fascinating, paving the way for authors like Carl Sagan, Stephen Jay Gould, and Bill Bryson.

Recognition and Honors

Throughout his life, Asimov received numerous awards, including the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker Awards, as well as the Presidential Award for Science Writing. His prolific output and dedication to education have cemented his reputation as a great science writer.

Why Isaac Asimov Remains a Model for Science Writers Today

- **Passion for Science:** His genuine curiosity and enthusiasm are contagious.
- **Clarity of Explanation:** His ability to break down complex ideas remains a benchmark.
- **Versatility:** His writings span many disciplines, demonstrating the interconnectedness of knowledge.
- **Humor and Storytelling:** Making learning enjoyable and memorable.

Conclusion

Isaac Asimov's legacy as a great science writer endures because of his exceptional talent for communicating science in a way that is accessible, engaging, and inspiring. His works continue to educate and entertain, fostering curiosity and understanding about the universe we live in. As we look to the future of science communication, Asimov's example serves as a reminder that effective storytelling, clarity, and passion are essential tools for making science accessible to all. His

contributions have not only shaped scientific literacy but also ignited the imaginations of countless readers, ensuring his place among the greatest science writers of all time.

Isaac Asimov: Great Science Writers and the Legacy of a Scientific Luminary

When contemplating the pantheon of science writers who have profoundly influenced both scientific literacy and popular understanding of complex concepts, Isaac Asimov stands out as a towering figure. His prolific output, clarity of explanation, and ability to intertwine scientific rigor with engaging storytelling cement his place among the greatest science writers of all time. Asimov's work not only demystified the intricacies of science but also inspired countless individuals to pursue scientific inquiry, making him an enduring figure in both literature and science communication.

Early Life and Intellectual Foundations

Understanding Asimov's contributions begins with an appreciation of his background. Born in 1920 in Russia and emigrating to the United States as a child, Asimov grew up in Brooklyn, New York. His early fascination with science and reading, fostered by a childhood immersed in science fiction magazines and books, laid the groundwork for his later pursuits. Self-educated through voracious reading, he developed a broad knowledge base that would underpin his extensive writing career.

His academic pursuits culminated in a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Columbia University. This scientific training provided him with a solid foundation in the scientific method, critical thinking, and the ability to communicate complex ideas with precision and clarity—traits that defined his writing style.

Asimov's Approach to Science Communication

Clarity and Accessibility

One of Asimov's defining characteristics as a science writer was his unparalleled ability to explain complex scientific concepts in simple, accessible language. Unlike technical journals or dense textbooks, his writings aimed to reach the general reader without sacrificing accuracy. This approach made science appealing and comprehensible, fostering curiosity among a broad audience.

He believed that science literacy was crucial for an informed society and dedicated much of his career to this cause. His explanations often employed analogies, step-by-step logical progression, and engaging narratives that bridged the gap between specialists and laypeople.

Scientific Accuracy and Rigor

While striving for accessibility, Asimov maintained rigorous scientific accuracy. His background in biochemistry and extensive research ensured that his writings reflected the current state of scientific knowledge. He was meticulous in citing sources and grounding his explanations in established science, which earned him respect from both scientists and readers.

Engagement Through Storytelling

Asimov's talent extended beyond mere explanation; he was a master storyteller. His use of anecdotes, historical context, and hypothetical scenarios made his science writing lively and memorable. This narrative style not only clarified concepts but also kept readers engaged, turning abstract ideas into compelling stories.

Major Works and Contributions

Popular Science Books

Asimov authored numerous books aimed at general audiences, making science approachable and enjoyable. Some of his most notable titles include:

- "The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science" (1960): A comprehensive overview of scientific principles, history, and developments, serving as a foundational text for general science enthusiasts.
- "Asimov's New Guide to Science" (1984): An updated and expanded version that covers advancements in physics, biology, astronomy, and more.
- "The Universe: From Flat Earth to Quasar" (1966): An accessible exploration of astronomy and cosmology, illustrating the evolution of our understanding of the universe.

These works exemplify his ability to synthesize vast amounts of scientific knowledge into coherent narratives that educate and inspire.

Science Fiction and Its Influence

While primarily celebrated as a science communicator, Asimov's science fiction writing also contributed heavily to his status as a great science writer. His stories, especially the "Foundation" series and "Robot" series, explored themes of robotics, artificial intelligence, and societal evolution. These narratives not only entertained but also prompted philosophical and scientific debates about the future of technology.

His fiction often incorporated scientific principles, making complex ideas about robotics, ethics, and space exploration accessible and thought-provoking. This blending of storytelling with scientific speculation enhanced public interest in science and technology.

Histories and Essays

Asimov's essays and historical writings further showcase his depth as a science communicator. His series of essays covered topics like the history of science, mathematics, and medicine, highlighting the human stories behind scientific discoveries. His historical analyses, such as "The Human Brain," provided insights into how scientific understanding has evolved over centuries.

Impact and Legacy in Science Communication

Influence on Public Understanding of Science

Asimov's writings significantly contributed to the democratization of scientific knowledge. His ability to translate complex ideas into engaging narratives helped demystify science for millions. Many readers credit him with sparking their interest in science, leading some to pursue careers in the field.

His books have remained in print for decades, testament to their enduring relevance and popularity. Educational institutions often cite his works as supplementary materials for teaching science concepts.

Mentorship and Inspiration

Beyond his writings, Asimov served as a mentor and role model for aspiring science writers. His prolific output demonstrated that scientific communication could be both intellectually rigorous and widely accessible. He set a standard for clarity, enthusiasm, and integrity in science writing.

Recognition and Honors

Throughout his career, Asimov received numerous awards, including the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker Awards for his fiction, as well as accolades recognizing his contributions to science education and literature. His influence extends beyond the literary realm into science policy and education.

Critical Evaluation of Asimov's Style and Methodology

Strengths

- Clarity and Simplicity: His straightforward language made science understandable.
- Breadth of Knowledge: His multidisciplinary background allowed him to cover diverse scientific fields.
- Engagement: His storytelling kept readers invested in scientific concepts.
- Humility and Honesty: He acknowledged the limits of current knowledge and avoided

sensationalism.

Limitations and Criticisms

- Some critics argue that Asimov's explanations, while clear, occasionally oversimplified nuanced scientific debates.
- His focus on established science sometimes limited his exploration of speculative or controversial ideas.
- Asimov's style, while accessible, was sometimes viewed as dry or lacking in emotional depth compared to other writers.

Despite these criticisms, his overall contribution remains monumental, and his impact on science communication is undeniable.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of Isaac Asimov as a Great Science Writer

Isaac Asimov's towering legacy as a great science writer stems from his unparalleled ability to communicate scientific ideas with clarity, enthusiasm, and integrity. His writings have educated generations, inspired scientific curiosity, and bridged the gap between the scientific community and the public. Asimov demonstrated that science is not solely the domain of specialists but a vital part of human culture and understanding.

In an era where misinformation can spread rapidly, Asimov's model of clear, honest, and engaging science communication remains a guiding light. His work not only enriched our knowledge of the universe but also exemplified the importance of science literacy in building a better, more informed society. As science continues to advance at an unprecedented pace, the influence of Isaac Asimov as a pioneer of science writing endures, inspiring new generations to explore, question, and understand the world through the lens of science.

Question Who was Isaac Asimov and why is he considered a great science writer? Isaac Asimov was a prolific American science fiction writer and biochemist known for his clear, engaging writing style and influential works that popularized science concepts. His ability to explain complex ideas to the general public has cemented his reputation as a great science communicator. What are some of Isaac Asimov's most famous science books? Some of Isaac Asimov's most famous science books include 'The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science,' 'Asimov's New Guide to Science,' and his numerous essays and popular science articles that cover a wide range of scientific topics. How did Isaac Asimov influence science education and popular science writing? Isaac Asimov revolutionized science education by making complex scientific ideas accessible and engaging to a broad audience through his clear explanations, humor, and storytelling, inspiring countless readers and aspiring

scientists. What distinguishes Isaac Asimov's science writing from other science writers? Asimov's writing is distinguished by its clarity, logical structure, and ability to simplify complex topics without sacrificing accuracy, making science approachable and enjoyable for readers of all backgrounds. In what ways did Isaac Asimov contribute to science fiction and science fact? While renowned for his science fiction, Asimov also contributed significantly to science fact through his essays, books, and articles that explained real scientific principles, bridging the gap between science fiction imagination and scientific reality. What awards and recognitions did Isaac Asimov receive for his science writing? Isaac Asimov received numerous awards including the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker Awards, as well as the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Engineering Communication, recognizing his outstanding contributions to science literature. Why is Isaac Asimov still relevant in the field of science writing today? Asimov's ability to communicate science clearly and engagingly remains influential, inspiring modern science writers and educators, and his works continue to serve as foundational texts for science enthusiasts and students worldwide.

Related keywords: Isaac Asimov, science fiction, science writer, futurism, robotics, astrophysics, popular science, science literature, science essays, visionary authors

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