

## Photo Description



A person holds an orange tool that can tell how hot or cold things are without touching them. The tool shows the number 113.5 on its screen. This special tool is pointing at a brick walkway on a sunny day.

## Scientific Phenomena

The Anchoring Phenomenon shown here is infrared temperature measurement - the ability to detect heat energy that objects give off without physical contact. All objects emit invisible heat energy called infrared radiation. The infrared thermometer contains a special sensor that detects this heat energy and converts it into a temperature reading on the digital display. The high reading of 113.5°F indicates the brick surface has absorbed significant heat energy from the sun, demonstrating how materials absorb and emit thermal energy.

## Core Science Concepts

1. Heat Transfer: Objects can give off heat energy that we cannot see but special tools can detect
2. Temperature Measurement: Different tools can measure how hot or cold something is in different ways
3. Solar Energy Absorption: Dark surfaces like bricks absorb heat from the sun and become very warm
4. Non-contact Measurement: Some scientific tools can gather information without touching the object being studied

### Pedagogical Tip:

Use concrete comparisons students can relate to: "Just like you can feel heat from a campfire without touching it, this tool can 'feel' the heat coming from the bricks without touching them."

### UDL Suggestions:

Provide multiple ways for students to explore temperature: tactile experiences (safely feeling warm vs. cool objects), visual representations (color-coding hot/cold), and kinesthetic activities (body movements to show fast vs. slow molecules).

## Zoom In / Zoom Out

1. Zoom In: At the molecular level, the heated brick contains molecules moving very quickly due to absorbed solar energy. These fast-moving molecules create the heat energy that the infrared thermometer detects as invisible waves.
2. Zoom Out: This demonstrates part of Earth's energy system where solar radiation heats surfaces during the day. This heating affects local weather patterns, creates thermal currents, and influences the water cycle through evaporation from heated surfaces.

## Discussion Questions

1. "What do you think would happen if we measured the temperature of the same bricks at nighttime?" (Bloom's: Predict | DOK: 2)
2. "How is this tool different from a regular thermometer that goes in your mouth?" (Bloom's: Compare | DOK: 2)
3. "Why might the bricks be hotter than the air around them on this sunny day?" (Bloom's: Analyze | DOK: 3)
4. "What other objects around our school might be really hot on a sunny day like this?" (Bloom's: Apply | DOK: 1)

## Potential Student Misconceptions

1. Misconception: "The tool is shooting something at the bricks to make them hot."  
Reality: The tool only detects heat energy already coming from the bricks; it doesn't add heat.
2. Misconception: "Only things that feel hot give off heat energy."  
Reality: All objects give off some heat energy, even ice cubes, just at different amounts.
3. Misconception: "You need to touch something to know its temperature."  
Reality: Heat energy travels through space as invisible waves that special tools can detect.

## NGSS Connections

- Performance Expectation: 2-PS1-4: Construct an argument with evidence that some changes caused by heating or cooling can be reversed and some cannot.
- Disciplinary Core Idea: 2-PS1.B - Chemical Reactions (heating and cooling effects)
- Crosscutting Concept: Energy and Matter - Objects may break into smaller pieces or change properties when heated or cooled

## Science Vocabulary

- \* Temperature: How hot or cold something is
- \* Infrared: Invisible heat energy that comes from all objects
- \* Thermometer: A tool that measures how hot or cold things are
- \* Absorb: To take in energy, like a sponge takes in water
- \* Heat energy: The energy that makes things feel warm or hot

## External Resources

### Children's Books:

- Heat Wave by Helen Ketteman
- Hot and Cold by Karen Bryant-Mole
- Temperature: Heating Up and Cooling Down by David Dreier

### YouTube Videos:

- "Heat Transfer for Kids" - Simple explanation of how heat moves from one place to another with animations (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbDboid7gRE>)
- "What is Temperature? - Science for Kids" - Kid-friendly explanation of temperature and thermometers with visual demonstrations (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2xXgLIK2NQ>)