

# VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYAPEETH

## STUDY MATERIAL SCIENCE

### CLASS-VIII

Date : 08/09/2020

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## ▶ 6. Combustion

### Invention of the safety match :

Matches that ignite only when struck on a specially prepared surface are called safety matches.

The discovery of fire was a significant turning point in human history. It is not known when exactly humans first start making fire by rubbing sticks or stones together. More than 5,000 years ago, sticks with sulphur at one or both ends were used to carry fires from a source to light chandeliers. In 1680, an Irishman named Robert Boyle discovered that if phosphorus and sulphur were rubbed together, they would instantly burst into flames.

In the nineteenth century, it was discovered that certain chemicals when subjected to friction created fire. This idea was then used in making matches. The phosphorus match was invented in 1820. The early matches could be struck against any type of a surface to light them. This made them catch fire very easily and were, therefore, dangerous