Handout M04-2: Why does the candle go out?

Name: ________________________

1. Place one votive candle on the metal tray and light it. You will light matches from this candle.

2. Place the other candle in a beaker or other container.

3. Light the long fireplace match from the burning candle on the metal tray. Then use it to light the candle in the container. If either candle is hard to light, you may need to scrape some wax from around the wick. This step proves that the candle in the container can be lighted.

4. Blow out the candle in the container.

5. Ask the teacher to place some pieces of dry ice next to the candle in the container. If you need to handle the dry ice, use the oven mitt.

6. Relight the fireplace match from the candle on the metal tray. Then use it to relight the candle in the container.

7. You may repeat the experiment and use different techniques to light the candle in the container.

8. Answer the questions below.

A. Describe what you observed when you were relighting the candle in the container.

B. Describe techniques you used to try to light the candle in the container. Explain how well each technique worked.

C. Use the Fire Triangle to explain your observations.