

Natural Kinds And Conceptual Change - Joseph Laporte

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According to the received tradition, the language used to refer to natural kinds in scientific discourse remains stable even as theories about these kinds are refined. In this illuminating book, Joseph LaPorte argues that scientists do not discover that sentences about natural kinds, like 'Whales are mammals, not fish', are true rather than false. Instead, scientists find that these sentences were vague in the language of earlier speakers and they refine the meanings of the relevant natural-kind terms to make the sentences true. Hence, scientists change the meaning of these terms, This conclusions prompts LaPorte to examine the consequences of this change in meaning for the issue of incommensurability and for the progress of science. This book will appeal to students and professional in the philosophy of science, the philosophy of biology and the philosophy of language. Author: LaPorte, Joseph Publisher: Cambridge University Press Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: Natural Kinds and Conceptual Change Pages: 00232 (Encrypted PDF) On Sale: 2003-12-08 SKU-13/ISBN: 9780521825993 Category: Science : Philosophy & Social Aspects Category: Philosophy : General

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