

Solids, Liquids & Gases





Heat changes water, a liquid, into steam, a gas.

Matter

Everything on Earth is made of matter. Although the air, our hands, and water look different, they are all made of matter.

Although all matter is the same, it can take different forms. Air is matter in the form of gas. Water is matter in liquid form. Hands are matter in solid form.

Water is a form of matter as a liquid. When water gets very cold it can turn into a solid called ice. When water gets very hot it can turn into a gas called steam. Most matter can change forms.

Key Notes:

Why do different forms of matter look different?



Solids keep their shape when moved.

Solids

Books and chairs are both examples of solid matter. Solids keep their shape, even when they are pushed or pulled. Chairs can be pushed or pulled, but they still look the same.

Solids also stay the same size when they are moved. Books can be moved from big boxes to small boxes, yet they stay the same size.

Heat, however, can change some solids into another form of matter. Ice, for example, turns into a liquid when it is heated.

Key Notes:

What is solid matter?



A liquid takes the shape
of whatever it is in.

Liquids

Water and milk are matter in liquid form. Liquids take the shape of whatever they are in. If water is in a cup, it takes the shape of the cup. Without a cup, water spills and spreads.

Liquids stay the same size even when they are moved. If water is moved from a large cup to a small cup, there is no less water. If the cup is too small, the water spills over. Heat, however, can turn liquid into another form.

Key Notes:

What is liquid matter?



**Air is a gas that
fills a space.**

Gases

The air around us is matter in gas form. Like liquids, gases take the shape of the container they are in. The air in a ball takes the shape of the ball.

Gases also fill space. If gas is moved from a small container to a large container, it fills the space in the large container.

Like some liquids, some gases change into another form of matter when they are cooled. Steam is a gas that turns into water when it is cooled.

Key Notes:

How are gases different from solids and liquids?

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