Solids, Liquids & Gases

BY DELORES BOUFFARD

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The activities in this book explain elementary concepts in the study of chemistry, including matter, atoms, molecules, physical properties of matter, and changing states of matter.

General background information, suggested activities, questions for discussion, and answers are included. Encourage students to keep completed pages in a folder or notebook for further reference and review.

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SOLIDS, LIQUIDS & GASES

MATTER

Everything you can see, touch, and feel is **matter**. Matter is anything that takes up space and has mass. You are made of matter! Matter can be dead or it can be alive.

ACTIVITY

- 1. Hold your hand close to your mouth, and breathe through your mouth. The warm air you feel on your hand is matter!
- 2. Touch the tip of your finger to your tongue. Your fingertip becomes wet from the saliva. Saliva is matter!
- 3. Touch your hair, a fingernail, your nose, and teeth. These parts of you are all forms of matter!
- 4. Matter is found in three forms in nature: solids, liquids, and gases.
- 5. Your breath is a ______.
- 6. Your saliva is a . . .
- 7. Your hair, skin, teeth, and fingernails are ______ forms of matter.
- 8. Give another example of each form of matter.

Solid _____.
Liquid _____.



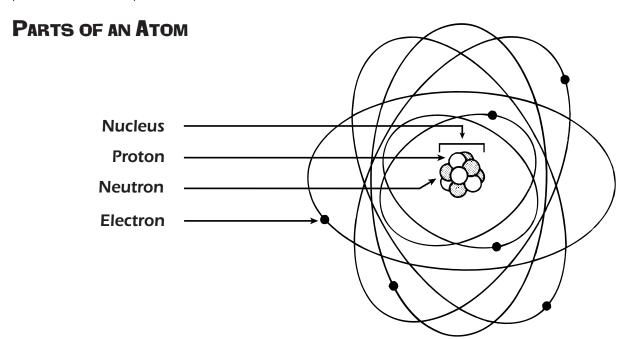
Note

The word matter comes from the latin word *mater* which means "mother." Matter is the mother of all things.

SOLIDS, LIQUIDS & GASES

THE ATOM

All matter is made up of particles called **atoms**. Atoms are all about the same size. All atoms are very tiny. One atom is more than one million (1,000,000) times smaller than the thickness of a single hair on your head! Billions of atoms make up the period at the end of this sentence. Only by using powerful microscopes can evidence of atoms be seen.



All atoms have the same basic parts. An atom is made up of three particles: **protons**, **neutrons**, and **electrons**. The protons and neutrons form the **nucleus** in the center of the atom. Most of the mass of an atom is in the nucleus. The electrons move at high speed around the nucleus. Most of the size of the atom is the space where the electrons circle around the nucleus.

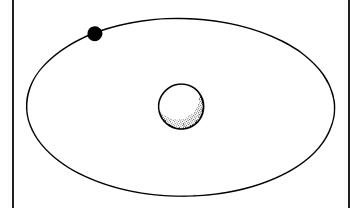
ACTIVITY

- 1. All matter is made up of particles called ______.
- 2. All atoms are very ______.
- 3. All atoms are made up of ______ basic particles.
- 4. The _____ is in the center of the atom.

SOLIDS, LIQUIDS & GASES

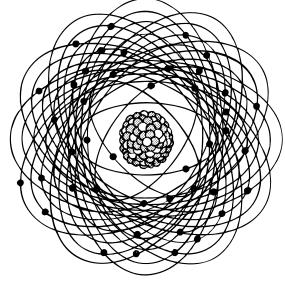
THE ATOM

HYDROGEN ATOM



the lightest atom 1 electron

URANIUM ATOM



the heaviest atom 92 electrons