Name_	 	 	 	_
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Science	Vocabulary
Student	#



Matter on the Move

solids	 particles are closely packed. particles vibrate slowly. have a definite volume. have a definite shape. 	
liquids	 particles slip and slide past each other. have a definite volume. do not have a definite shape. 	
gases	 particles get excited, move quickly particles are further apart. do not have a definite volume. do not have a definite shape. 	
energy	The ability to do work; comes in different forms, such as electrical, thermal, mechanical, and chemical.	
kinetic energy	The energy of motion; example: riding your bike.	
potential energy	Stored energy; example: standing with your bike at the top of a hill.	
thermal energy	Energy produced by the movement and attractions of molecules within a substance.	
temperature	A measure of the average thermal energy of the molecules of a substance; when molecules speed up, its temperature rises; when molecules slow down, its temperature drops.	
heat	The transfer of thermal energy from a warmer object to a cooler one.	

Changes in State			
melting	The process where matter changes from a solid to a liquid.		
melting point	The temperature at which matter changes from the solid state to the liquid state.		
freezing	The process where matter changes from liquid to a solid.		
freezing point	The temperature at which matter changes from the liquid state to the solid state.		
vaporization	The process where matter changes from a liquid to a gas.		
boiling	Vaporization (liquid to gas) that occurs within a liquid; example: heating a pot of water on the stove.		
evaporation	Vaporization (liquid to gas) that occurs at the surface of a liquid; example: a puddle of water that disappears.		
condensation	The process where matter changes from a gas to a liquid; example: water vapor becomes water droplets on the grass.		
sublimation	The process where matter changes from a solid directly to a gas; example: dry ice creating fog.		
deposition	The process where matter changes from a gas directly to a solid; example: frost on the grass		
Transfer of Thermal Energy			
conduction	The transfer of thermal energy by physical contact; warming your hands on a hot cup of cocoa.		
radiation	The transfer of thermal energy by waves that move through matter or empty space; warming your hands by a fire.		
convection	The transfer of thermal energy through the movement of a liquid or gas; drying your hand under a hot-air dryer.		