

Read About Solids, Liquids and Gases

SOLIDS, LIQUIDS AND GASES DEFINITION

The three main forms of matter are called solid, liquids and gases. Matter is anything that takes up space and has weight. A solid keeps its shape, a liquid takes the shape of its container and a gas fills its container.

To better understand solids, liquids and gases...

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN!

Everything around us is made of matter.

Matter is anything that has weight and takes up space, like you and me. Cars, trees, the food we eat and the air we breathe are all made of matter. Things that are not matter include songs, feelings and dreams.



Matter can be solid, liquid or gas.

These three main forms of matter all have weight and take up space. A desk, pencil, computer and toy truck are solid. Water and milk are liquids. The air around us is a gas.



What is a solid?

A solid keeps its shape, like a bowling ball or a carrot. Even if you drop a bowling ball, it still keeps its shape. Ice is made of water in solid form. Many things that are solid can become liquid if they are heated.



What is a liquid?

Liquids take the shape of their container, such as a bucket, jug or coffee pot. Liquids include things like water, juice and soda. All liquids also have weight and take up space.

What is a gas?

Gases fill their entire container. When you blow into a balloon, you fill it up with air which is a gas. Air is all around us. Some liquids such as soda have tiny gas bubbles in them.



SOLIDS, LIQUIDS AND GASES VOCABULARY

Container

An object that can hold something else, like a cup.

Weight

How heavy something is.

Matter

Anything that takes up space and has weight.

Solid

A type of matter that keeps its shape.

Liquid

A type of matter that takes the shape of its container.

Gas

A type of matter that fills its container.

QUESTIONS ABOUT MATTER

What state of matter is slime? How do you know?

Slime doesn't keep its shape, so it's a liquid.

What is different about a liquid and a solid?

A solid keeps its shape while a liquid takes the shape of its container.

Why isn't a dream made of matter?

It doesn't take up space or have weight.

Why is a carrot considered to be a solid?

It keeps its shape.

What is special about Oobleck?

It sometimes acts like a solid, and sometimes acts like a liquid.

How do you know that a bowling ball is a solid?

A bowling ball keeps its shape.
