

Name _____ Date _____ # _____

States of Matter

Everything around us is made of matter. Matter is what things are made of! There are three main states of matter: solid, liquid, and gas.

A solid has its own shape. Think about an ice cube, a book, or a rock. These things do not change their shape easily. You can hold a solid in your hand.

A liquid does not have its own shape. It takes the shape of its container. Water, milk, and juice are liquids. If you pour juice into a cup, it fills the cup's shape.

A gas does not have its own shape or size. Gases spread out to fill all the space in a container. Air is a gas. Balloons are filled with gas, and the gas spreads out to fill the whole balloon.

Sometimes, matter can change from one state to another. When you melt an ice cube, it turns from a solid to a liquid. When you boil water, it turns from a liquid to a gas called steam!

Comprehension Questions

1. What are the three main states of matter?
 - a) Water, juice, and ice
 - b) Solid, liquid, and gas
 - c) Balloons, rocks, and cups
2. What happens to an ice cube when it melts?
3. Which state of matter takes the shape of its container?
4. Give one example of a solid and one example of a liquid.
5. What fills up a whole balloon?