

Glossary

Alike: Acting or looking the same.

Boiling point: The temperature at which a heated liquid turns into a gas.

Brainstorm: To share ideas on a topic. People often brainstorm to solve a problem.

Carbon dioxide: A gas made up of carbon and oxygen. Carbon dioxide has no color or odor.

Chemical reaction: A change that occurs when two or more substances combine to form a new substance with properties that are different from the properties of the original substances.

Communicate: To share information and ideas through speaking, writing, or drawing.

Compare: To look at two or more things to see how they are alike or different.

Condensation: The process by which a gas changes to a liquid.

Crystal: A solid object with shiny, flat surfaces that are arranged in a repeating pattern.

Data: Information, such as that gathered during an experiment.

Describe: To use words to explain how something looks, feels, or acts.

Different: Not the same.

Dissolve: To make or become part of a liquid mixture.

Evaporation: The process by which a liquid becomes a gas.

Experiment: A procedure that is carried out to investigate a scientific question.

Fair test: A test that compares two or more things by keeping everything the same except the thing being compared. A race is a fair test. Everyone starts at the same place and at the same time and ends at the same place. The only thing that is different is the speed of the runners.

Filter: A device with tiny openings that is used to separate insoluble solids from a liquid or a gas.

Freezing point: The temperature at which a liquid becomes a solid.

Gas: A substance that has no shape or volume. Gases continue to expand if given enough space. Most gases have no color and cannot be seen.

Graph: A diagram used to show the relationship between things.

Guess: To give an idea about something when you are not sure.

Indicator: A clue that shows evidence of a chemical reaction. The formation of a gas is one example of an indicator.

Insoluble: Not able to dissolve.

Investigate: To study something closely and in an organized way.

Length: The distance from one end of something to the other.

Liquid: A substance that has no shape but does have volume. A liquid takes the shape of its container.

Matter: Anything that has weight and takes up space. Everything in our world is made of matter.

Measure: To find out the length, size, weight, or temperature of something.

Melting point: The temperature at which a solid becomes a liquid.

Mixture: A combination of two or more substances in which each substance keeps its own properties.

Object: Something you can see or feel.

Observe: To use your senses to study something closely.

Pattern: A repeating arrangement of shapes, colors, numbers, or things.

Plot: To locate a point or series of points on a graph.

Predict: To say what you think is going to happen.

Procedure: A set of steps that tells how to do something.

Property: Something about an object that helps tell what it is.

React: The action that happens when two substances combine or break apart and form a new substance or substances.

Same: Alike; not different.

Senses: Touch, taste, smell, sight, and hearing.

Shape: The form of an object.

Sieve: A device with tiny holes that is used to separate large objects from smaller ones, or to separate solids from a liquid.

Size: A measurement of how big something is.

Solid: A substance that takes up space and has its own shape.

Solution: A mixture formed when a substance dissolves in a liquid and cannot be filtered out. The properties of a mixture are the same throughout the liquid.

Sort: To put things together on the basis of a property, such as color or shape.

States of matter: The three forms that matter may take—solid, liquid, and gas.

Tool: An object used to do a task.

Unit: A fixed quantity used as a standard of measure. Inches, miles, meters, degrees, and kilograms are all units.

Volume: The amount of space that something takes up.

Water cycle: The process by which water moves through the ground, evaporates from earth into the air, forms clouds, and falls back to earth as rain or snow.

Water vapor: Water that has changed to gas.

Weight: A measurement of how heavy something is.