

States of Matter

Did you know that everything around us is made of matter? Matter can exist in different forms and these forms are called the states of matter. **Let's learn more about them!**

What Are the Three States of Matter?

Matter comes in three main states: solid, liquid, and gas. **For example**, solids, like a pencil, a rock, or a chair, have a fixed shape because their particles are tightly packed together. **On the other hand**, liquids, such as water and juice, take the shape of their container because the particles are not tightly packed like in a solid. **In contrast**, gases, like the air we breathe, spread out to fill the space they are in because their particles are far apart and move freely in all directions.

Changing From One State to Another

Matter can change from one state to another when it is heated or cooled. **For instance**, when a solid, like ice, is heated, it melts into liquid, like water. **In addition**, water can become steam when it is boiled. **Therefore**, if you cool steam, it turns back into water and cooling water turns it back into ice. **Isn't it amazing how something as simple as temperature can change matter in so many ways?**

Interesting Facts About Matter

- **Did you know** glass is actually a very slow-moving liquid even though it looks solid?
- **Incredible as it seems**, water is the only substance on Earth that can naturally be found as a solid, a liquid, and a gas.
- **Believe it or not**, slime is a tricky substance because it acts like both a solid and a liquid at the same time.