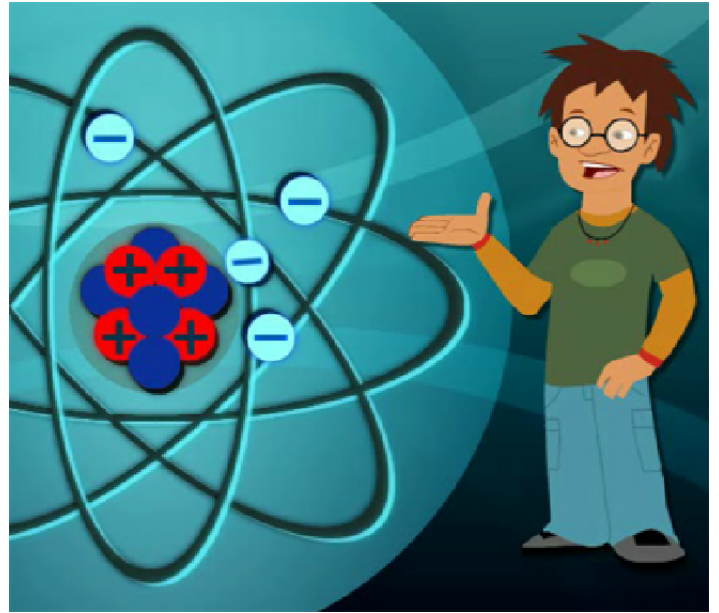


An atom is a tiny particle in matter, and atoms are made of protons, neutrons, and electrons. Some matter, like your body or your book, is made of lots of different kinds of atoms, but elements are made up of only one kind of atom.



Key vocabulary

nucleus

The central part of an atom.

proton

A part of the nucleus of an atom. Protons carry a positive electrical charge.

neutron

A part of the nucleus of an atom. Neutrons carry no electrical charge.

electron

A part of the nucleus of an atom. Electrons carry a negative electrical charge.

Related articles



Properties of Matter

Matter is the stuff all around us, and all of it has mass and volume.



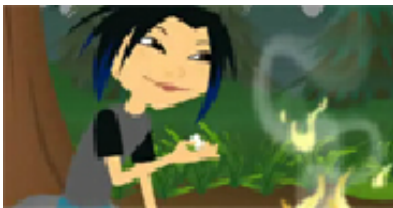
Solids, Liquids, Gases

You know water can be a solid, a liquid, or a gas. So can all kinds of other forms of matter. But how do they change states?



Elements & Compounds

Mixtures mix, but they stay physically separate. When two or more elements combine on a chemical level, a compound is what you get.



Physical & Chemical Changes of Matter

Matter does not have to stay the same. It has a lot of ways to change its properties. Check it out!



Properties of Matter

Matter is the stuff all around us, and all of it has mass and volume.