Matter Vocabulary

Key Term	Definition
matter	Anything that has volume and mass
atoms	The smallest particle into which an element can be divided and still be the same substance
molecule	A neutral group of atoms held together by covalent bonds
states of matter	The physical forms in which a substance can exist; states include solid, liquid, and gas
solid	The state in which matter has a definite shape and volume
liquid	The state in which matter takes the shape of its container and has a definite volume

gas		The state in which matter changes in both shape and volume
phase change		The conversion of a substance to one physical form to another
boiling point		The temperature at which a liquid boils and becomes a gas
melting		The change of state from a solid to a liquid
freezing point	Brrr!	The temperature at which a liquid changes to a solid
sublimation		The change of state from a solid directly to a gas

condensation	The change of state from a gas to a liquid
evaporation	Vaporization that occurs at the surface of a liquid below its boiling point