

## Whatsa Matter?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Purpose:** In order to study matter, it is important to understand what matter is and what qualities all matter possesses. In this lesson you will work to come up with a definition for matter.

### Answer the following questions

1. Which things in the following list are matter? Divide the items into three categories as shown below:

toothpaste	the ocean	batteries	gasoline	heat
electricity	fear	saliva	paper	a dog
a star	DNA	helium	bacteria	wind
juice	peanut butter	democracy	a cell	atoms
sound	clouds	car exhaust	wisdom	soil

Matter	Unsure	Not Matter

2. As a team, discuss what properties the things in the matter category have in common. Make a list of these properties. Remember these properties must apply to all things that are matter.

3. As a team, come up with a definition for matter. Your list of properties may help you with this task.

**Making Sense:**

Pick one of the items that you consider to be “not matter”. State why you believe that particular item is something other than matter. Show how it doesn’t fit your definition of matter.

**If you finish early...**

Could we experience heat without matter? Discuss your ideas on the relationship between heat and matter.



PRE-ALCHEMISTS CONTEMPLATING MATTER