

# Study Guide: Physical Science

## Lab and Lab Safety



- Follow procedures
- Use materials appropriately
- Think

## Scientific Method

Purpose/Question  
Research  
Hypothesis  
Experiment  
Analysis and Conclusion

**Variables**- any factor in an experiment that can be changed  
**Constants**- variables that don't change in the experiment  
**Independent variable**- the variable being changed in the experiment  
**Dependent Variable**- the variable that is being measured  
**Control**- a reference for comparison in an experiment  
**Inference**- a conclusion based on the results of the experiment

## Lab, Mass, Volume, and Density



A *triple beam balance* measures mass in grams

A *graduated cylinder* measures volume in ml

A *graduated cylinder* also measures the volume of solids by liquid displacement



Ice floats in water because its density is less than liquid water



$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}}$$

**Mass** is the amount of matter in an object

**Volume** is the amount of space an object occupies

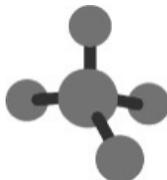
## Atoms, Elements, Compounds

- Matter includes all solids, liquids and gases on Earth. All matter is made of atoms.

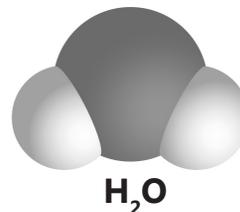
Atom



Compound



Water Molecule



Compounds are made of two or more atoms

## Periodic Table

- A chart that organizes the chemical elements in order of atomic number and their chemical characteristics.

Elements in a column have similar chemical properties

Most elements are metals

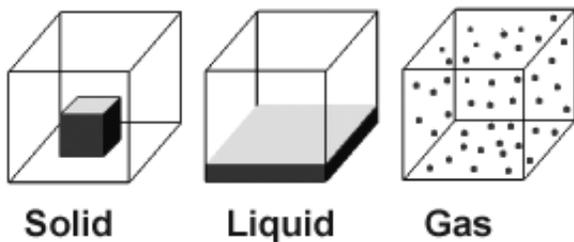
Metals  
conduct electricity  
good conductors of heat  
Shiny

Increasing atomic number in a row

		17					18
		Nonmetals					Metals
		boron 5 B 10.811					helium 2 He 4.0026
		aluminum 13 Al 26.982					neon 10 Ne 20.180
		zinc 30 Zn 65.39					argon 18 Ar 39.948
		cadmium 48 Cd 112.41					krypton 36 Kr 83.80
		gallium 31 Ga 69.723					xenon 54 Xe 131.29
		germanium 32 Ge 72.61					Nobel Gases
		tin 50 Sn 118.71					
		antimony 51 Sb 121.76					
		tellurium 52 Te 127.60					
		iodine 53 I 126.90					

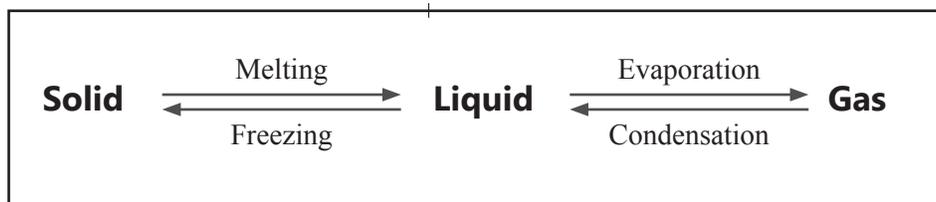
## Phases of Matter

- Atoms** in a **solid** are fixed in a crystalline pattern, **atoms** in a **liquid** can move around each other, and **atoms** in a **gas** exist independently.



Temperature determines phase

Atoms have more kinetic energy as temperature increases



Changing from one state to another is an example of a **Physical Change** (not a chemical change)

### Physical Changes

No new substances created  
e.g. ripping paper  
making a mixture  
melting copper  
changing shape

### Chemical Changes

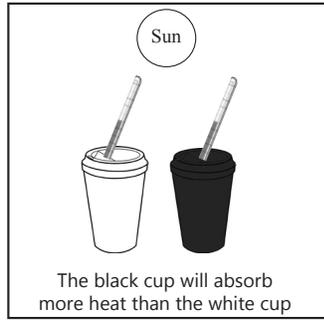
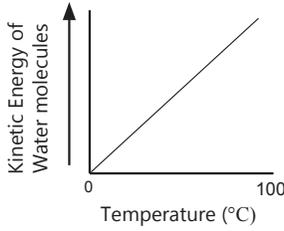
new substances created  
e.g. formation of rust  
burning of fuels  
photosynthesis  
baking cookies

**Mixture**- a combination of substances (e.g. sand and salt in water) that can separated from each other

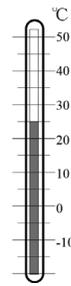
**Solubility**- sugar can dissolve in water. Heating and stirring increase solubility

# Thermal Energy

- Also called heat. As temperature increases, the atoms and molecules move faster and thermal energy increases.



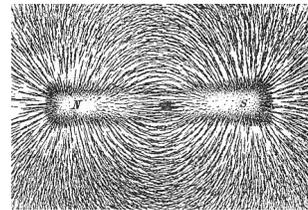
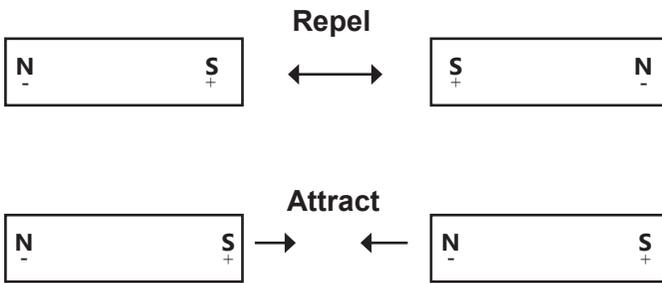
**Thermometer**



The liquid expands when heated and contracts when cooled.

**Convection currents** occur in the mantle of the Earth

# Magnets



The field is strongest at the poles

# Simple Machines

**Lever**

Fulcrum

**Pulley**

**Inclined Plane**

**Screw** and **Wedge** are types of inclined planes

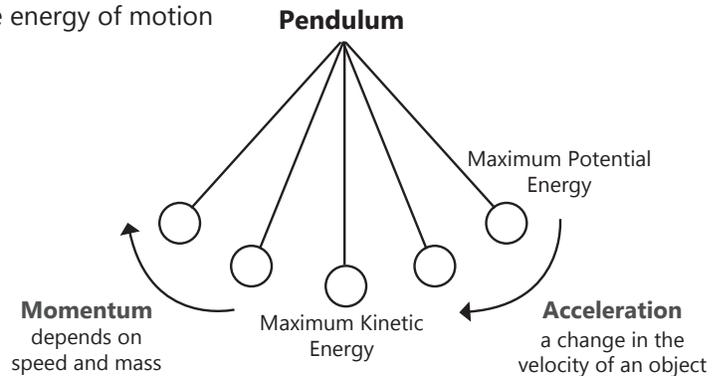
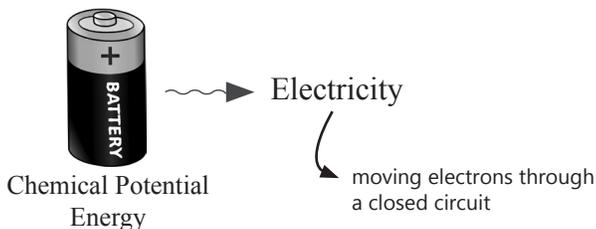
**Wheel and Axle**

Pulleys and levers can *change the direction* of the force

# Motion and Energy

**Potential Energy**- stored energy    **Kinetic Energy** - the energy of motion

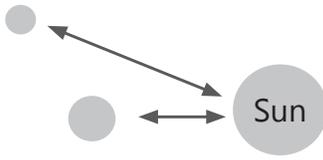
- Machines use **Mechanical Energy**
- Energy can be converted from one form into another (solar energy, photosynthesis)



# Forces

- a push or pull on an object. A force usually changes the motion of an object
- every action has an equal and opposite reaction.

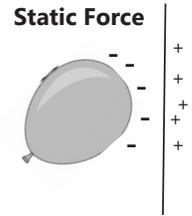
**Gravity**- an attractive force between two objects



mass and distance determine the strength of the gravitational field between two objects



The wall pushes back with an equal force



**Friction** — a force that opposes motion (air resistance, drag)  
— friction usually produces thermal energy

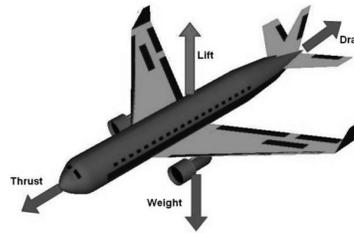
**Lift** an upwards force that affects objects in motion in a fluid

**Thrust** - a force that propels rockets and airplanes

**Drag**- a force that opposes thrust, a type of friction

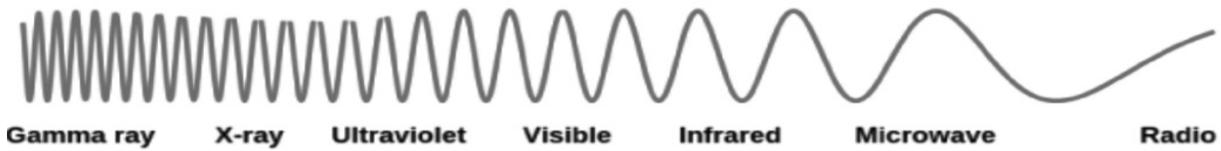
**Weight**- the pull of gravity

## Forces involved in Flight



Spring Scale measures force

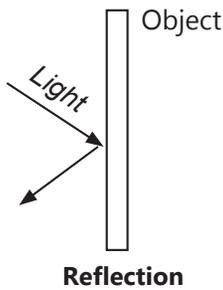
# Electromagnetic Waves



Short Wavelengths —————> Long Wavelengths

- The shorter the wavelength, the more energy carried by the waves
- Visible light is the portion of the EM spectrum that can be detected by the human eye

## Light Waves



## Sound Waves

- Sound waves are produced by *mechanical vibrations*
- Sound waves need a solid, liquid or gas to travel through and cannot travel through space (a vacuum)

**Lightning** - light waves, arrive first

**Thunder** - sound waves, arrive second