

Name: _____ Section: _____

Discovering the Definition of Matter - Solid, Liquid, Gas

Question:

What two characteristics do all types of matter have?

Materials needed for each group:

- water in a small container
- larger empty container
- a solid object
- a balloon
- observation sheet
- triple beam balance

Procedures:

1. Examine the solid object and complete the "solid" column on your observation sheet.
2. Examine the water, NOT THE CONTAINER. Before you begin writing your observations, pour the water into the empty container. Watch what happens to the shape of the water and then complete the "liquid" column on your observation sheet.
3. Examine your breath, a gas. Blow air (gas), out of your body and complete the "gas" column on your observation sheet except for the question, "Does it have weight?" For this question:
 - a) Get the mass of an empty balloon using the triple beam balance. Record this mass anywhere on your observation sheet.
 - b) Blow up the empty balloon.
 - c) Get the mass of the blown up balloon using the triple beam balance. Record this mass anywhere on your observation sheet.
 - d) Subtract the mass of the empty balloon from the mass of the balloon full of air. Record this number anywhere on your observation sheet.
4. Examine your observation sheet and try to find two things that are the same for the three types of matter.

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	Solid	Liquid	Gas
Does it sit by itself?			
Does it have a shape of its own?			
Can you see it?			
Can you feel it?			
Does it have weight/mass?			
Does it flow?			
Can you pour it?			
Does it feel wet?			
Does it take up space?			
Can a solid pass through it easily?			