

## **Glossary of Science Terms**



**Absorbent**: a material that will soak up liquid

**Atoms**: the (tiny) basic building blocks that all materials are made from

**Boiling**: when a liquid begins to turn into a gas and small bubbles form in the liquid

**Condense**: cooling a gas to change it into a liquid allows heat or electricity to travel

**Decant**: pouring off a liquid from a heavier solid or liquid

**Dissolve**: a solid mixed in a liquid that separates into particles too small to see

**Elasticity**: how far a material will stretch or bend then return to shape

**Evaporate**: heating a liquid to turn it into a gas

Filter: a way of separating small particles from a liquid by pouring through paper or cloth

Flammable: a material that catches fire and burns when heated

Freezing: changing from a liquid to a solid

Gas: gases have no fixed shape or volume

Hardness: resistance to scratching and pressure

**Insoluble**: a solid that does not dissolve in the liquid it has been mixed with.

**Insulate**: stops heat or electricity from travelling

Irreversible: a permanent change that can not be changed back

**Liquid**: liquids take the shape of the container they are in. The volume remains constant

**Melting**: changing from a solid to a liquid when heated.

**Mixture**: a combination of two or more substances where none have dissolved.

**Molecules**: small building blocks made from atoms joined together

**Opaque**: light can not pass through. You can not see through and a shadow will be formed.

**Permanent**: a change that can not be reversed

**Properties**: the properties are words that describe materials.

**Reversible**: when a change is not permanent and can be changed back

**Saturated**: when no more of a solid can be dissolved

**Sediment**: small particles that have sunk to the bottom of a liquid

**Separate**: to split apart or un-mix.

**Sieve**: passing a mixture through a mesh or small holes so larger solids are left behind

**Solid**: a solid keeps its shape unless a force is put on it.

**Soluble**: a material that will dissolve

**Solution**: a mixture of two materials when one has dissolved in the other

**Steam**: water that has condensed into small droplets in the air

**Stiff**: a material that does not change shape easily **Strength**: amount of force needed to break a material

**Suspension**: when a solid is mixed into a liquid without dissolving **Temperature**: a measure of how much heat energy something has **Toughness**: resistance to breaking under shock - opposite of brittle

**Translucent**: some light can pass through, but the light is altered in some way. e.g. coloured glass

**Transparent**: light can pass through. You can see through it

**Vapour**: liquid such as water as a gas

**Vibrating**: moving really quickly about a fixed point

**Viscous**: a thick liquid like syrup.

**Volume**: the amount of space something takes up.

**Waterproof**: a material that repels water.