

Matter and Energy Glossary Definitions CR 2009

Absorb To take in or soak up. (TG, SRB)

Accurate Very close to the correct answer. (SRB)

Appearance Depends on the color of light striking it. (TG)

Balance A tool used for weighing objects; when the balance beam is level the objects on either side are equal in mass. (TG)

Battery A source of stored chemical energy. (TG, SRB)

Capacity The volume of fluid (such as water) a container can hold when full. (TG)

Carbon dioxide A gas. (TG)

Chemical energy Energy stored in a substance. (TG, SRB)

Color Depends upon how objects reflect light and how they appear to our eyes. (TG)

Convert To change. (TG, SRB)

Degree Celsius (°C) The metric unit of temperature. (TG)

Electric current A flow of electricity through a wire. (TG, SRB)

Electricity A form of energy that can be converted to other forms of energy, such as heat, light, and sound. (TG, SRB)

Energy The ability to make things happen. Energy can take a number of forms and can be converted from one form to another. (TG, SRB)

Energy source A place where energy comes from, such as batteries, food, fuels, and the Sun. (TG, SRB)

Energy transfer The movement of energy from one thing to another or the change of energy from one form to another. (TG)

Evaporate To change from liquid to gas. (TG, SRB)

Evidence Data used to support claims. Evidence is based on observation and scientific data. (SRB)

Food The energy source that keeps things alive. (TG, SRB)

Fossil The preserved remains of plants and animals that lived long ago. (SRB)

Fossil fuel The preserved remains of plants that lived long ago and changed into oil, coal, and natural gas. (TG, SRB)

Fuel A material that contains energy. (TG, SRB)

Gas Matter that is shapeless and expands to fill a closed container. (TG, SRB)

Generator A device that converts motion into electric energy. (SRB)

Graduated cylinder A transparent cylinder marked with evenly spaced lines for determining the volumes of liquids. (TG)

Gram (g) The basic unit of mass in the metric system. (TG, SRB)

Heat A form of energy. (TG, SRB)

Kilogram (kg) 1000 grams. (TG)

Light A form of energy. (TG, SRB)

Light source Anything that makes light, such as the Sun, a lightbulb, or a flame. (TG, SRB)

Liquid Matter that flows and takes the shape of the container it is in. (TG, SRB)

Liter (L) The basic unit of liquid volume in the metric system. (TG, SRB)

Mass A quantity of matter. (TG, SRB)

Matter Anything that has mass and takes up space. (TG, SRB)

Melt To change from solid to liquid. Heat causes solids to melt. (TG, SRB)

Meter (m) The basic unit of distance or length in the metric system. (SRB)

Metric system A measuring system based on multiples of ten. (TG, SRB)

Milliliter (mL) 1/1000 of a liter, 1000 milliliters equal 1 liter (1 milliliter equals 1 cubic centimeter). (TG)

Mirror A shiny surface that reflects an image. (TG, SRB)

Motion A form of energy. (SRB)

Motor A device that converts electric energy into motion energy. (SRB)

Moving object An object that is changing position. (TG, SRB)

Opinion A claim based on belief, not on scientific data or observations. (SRB)

Particle The smallest building blocks of matter. (TG, SRB)

Periscope A device with two mirrors used to change the path taken by light. (SRB)

Prediction A guess based on experience and information. (TG)

Property A characteristic of an object, such as size, shape, and texture. (SRB)

Ray A line of light that travels straight out from a light source. (TG, SRB)

Reaction An interaction between substances that produces one or more new substances that have different properties than the starting substances. (TG, SRB)

Reflect To bounce off an object or surface. (TG, SRB)

Shadow Created when objects block light. (TG)

Shaft The part of a motor that spins. (SRB)

Solid Matter that has a definite shape. (TG, SRB)

Sound A form of energy carried by sound waves. (SRB)

Sound wave A wave produced by the energy of a vibrating object. (SRB)

State A form of matter. The three common states of matter are solid, liquid, and gas. (TG, SRB)

Stored energy Energy available for use. (TG, SRB)

Substance Matter that can be defined by the particles from which it is made. (TG, SRB)

Sun The star around which Earth orbits. The Sun provides energy to Earth. (TG, SRB)

Synthetic Something that is made by humans. (SRB)

Syringe A cylinder and piston system used to draw up, measure, and transfer liquids. (TG)

Temperature A measure of how hot a sample of matter is. (TG, SRB)

Thermometer A tool used to measure temperature. (TG)

Vibrate To move back-and-forth quickly. (SRB)

Vibration A quick back-and-forth movement. (SRB)

Volume Three-dimensional space. (TG, SRB)

Water vapor Water in its gas state. (SRB)

Water wave A wave carrying the energy of moving water. (SRB)

Wave A regular, repeating pattern, such as an ocean wave or a sound wave. (TG, SRB)

White light Light that is all colors mixed together. (TG, SRB)

Wind Air in motion. (SRB)

Wire A strand of metal through which electric energy can move. (SRB)