# <u>Year 4 Science Knowledge Organiser – States of Matter</u>

# What is a particle?

- Particles are what materials are made from.
- The properties of a substance depend on what its particles are like, how they move and how they are arranged.
- Particles behave differently in solids, liquids and gases.

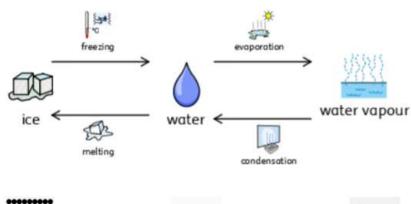
| Solid  | Liquid   | Gas   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul> <li>In a solid state, material holds shape.</li> <li>Solids have vibrating particles which are closely packed in to form a regular pattern.</li> <li>They cannot be poured.</li> <li>Solids always take up the same amount of space.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>In a liquid state, material holds the shape of the container it is in.</li> <li>This means liquids can change shape, depending on the container.</li> <li>Liquids have particles which are close together but random.</li> <li>Liquid particle can move over each other.</li> <li>Liquids can be poured.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>In a gas state, particles can escape from open containers.</li> <li>Gases have particles which are spread out and move in all directions.</li> </ul> |

# **Key Vocabulary**

| Condensation      | Small drops of water which form when water vapour or steam touches a cold surface.                            | Melting point | The temperature at which it melts.  |
|-------------------|---|---------------|---|
| Cooling           | Lowering the temperature of something.  | Precipitation | Rain, snow, sleet, dew, etc, formed by condensation of water vapour in the atmosphere.  |
| Freezing          | If a liquid or a substance containing a liquid freezes it turns into a solid because of the low temperatures. | Water cycle   | The process by which water on earth evaporates, then condenses in the atmosphere, and then returns to earth in the form of precipitation. |
| Freezing<br>point | The freezing point of a particular substance is the temperature at which it freezes.                          | Vibrations    | When something vibrates, it shakes with repeated small, quick movements.  |
| Heating           | Raising the temperature of something.   | Properties    | The ways in which an object behaves.  |
| Melting           | To change from a solid to a liquid state through heat or pressure.  | Water vapour  | Water in the gaseous state, especially when due to evaporation at a temperature below boiling point.                                      |

Particles in water when it is heated or cooled.

- When water (in liquid form)
  is heated, the particles
  move faster and faster until
  they have enough energy
  to move about more freely.
  The water has evaporated
  into a water vapour.
- When water is cooled, the particles start to slow down until a solid structure (ice) is formed. The water is frozen.







liquid



gas

The Water Cycle

solid

#### **Evaporation**

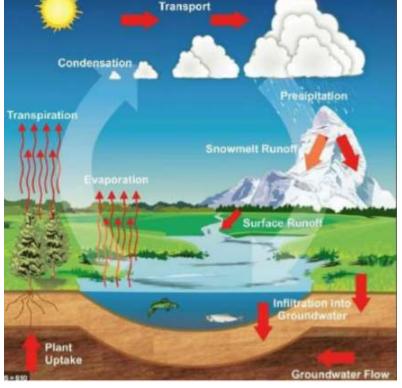
- The sun causes the water from the Earth (seas, lakes) to evaporate.
- When it evaporates, it turns into water vapour.

### **Condensation**

- As water vapour rises, it cools.
- When cool, condensation happens. Water vapour turns into water droplets.
- Clouds are made from a mix of dry air and water droplets.

#### Precipitation

 As more water droplets are formed, they become larger and eventually fall in the form of rain or snow.



### **Runoff and Transpiration**

- Water that hits Earth is then absorbed back into the soil. Plants use this to grow. It then
  evaporates back into the atmosphere from the plants. This is called transpiration.
- o Water may also run off and enter oceans, seas, rivers.
- o Water then evaporates again and the water cycle begins again.