

Is it Matter?

This list includes things that are matter and things that are not matter. Discuss with a partner which things are matter. Mark each thing that is matter.

rocks	salt	dissolved sugar
baby powder	Mars	electricity
milk	steam	human being
air	rotten apples	light
love	heat	opinions
dust	water	sound
music	bacteria	helium
atoms	oxygen	cells

Explain your thinking. How did you decide if something is matter or not?

Adapted from *Uncovering Student Ideas in Science, Volume 1*, by Page Keeley, Francis Eberle, and Lynn Farrin, NSTA Press.