

Narrational Entry:  
“What’s The Matter?”

Objectives:

- observe and describe properties of materials, such as density, conductivity, and solubility
- distinguish between chemical and physical changes
- develop your own mental models to explain common chemical reactions and changes in states of matter.



Purpose:

To use reading, writing, and illustrating in learning and reinforcing concepts of matter such as its properties and changes of states.

Task At Hand:

- Using a web browser such as Safari, Mozilla, or Internet Explorer, visit the website, <http://www.uvm.edu/~inquiryb/webquest/sp03/Barksdale/>, read over the website and answer the questions at the bottom of the web site using Notepad, WordPad, Word, Text, or any word processing program on your computer. You will be using this file in your assignment.
- Visit [www.brainpop.com](http://www.brainpop.com) and view the following videos:
  - “Matter Changing States
  - “Measuring Matter”
  - “Property Changes”
  - “Bouyancy”
- Using PowerPoint, Hyperstudio, HyperCard, or any other multimedia program, create a storyboard on the properties of matter, changes of matter, and causes of change in matter. This information will come from your notes, the web sites, and the short films viewed.
  - You are to have a title card for the three objectives
  - A story depicting a fictitious character explaining the objectives or a character such as compound going through the process as he or she explains it. You may have dialogue within the story or use it in the narrative sense.
  - Each slide must be split into thirds horizontally. Use the top two thirds as a canvas for your illustrations and the bottom third for the narrative. A template has been provided for you on the network share.
  - Avoid slide transitions since your final product should read like children’s book.

Evaluation

Allow 3 different classmates to view your storybook on their own. Ask for their feedback on a written sheet of paper. You will develop a questionnaire for feedback. Possible questions to ask of your peers are as follows:

- 1) Were the properties of matter such as density, conductivity, and solubility explained in the story?
- 2) Were chemical and physical changes explained in the story?
- 3) Did the story propose a new way of thinking about chemical and physical changes?
- 4) Ask for feedback on the pictures and the writing underneath...did it match, was it too busy, too wordy?

When finished, write a reflection on your story. Include your assessment on the project, the strengths and weaknesses of your story according to your peers. Present this paper, in Word format, along with your story, in digital format, to the teacher for review and schedule a presentation with the class after teacher approval.