# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science TAKS Vocabulary

Vocabulary Word	Definition
Absorb	Absorb
	To take something up or in: to soak up a liquid or take in nutrients or chemicals gradually
Adaptation	Adaptation
	To change to your environment: to develop physical and behavior characteristics that allow organisms to survive and have offspring.
Advantage	Advantage
	A factor or combination of factors that gives you a better chance of success. An advantage allows an organism to do well and to have many offspring.

# Alternative energy sources



# **Alternative energy**

sources are energy sources, which are not based on the burning of fossil fuels or the splitting of atoms.

# Animal population



# **Animal population**

All of the animals of the same species that live in the same place at the same time.

# **Approximate**



# **Approximate**

Nearly exact: not quite exact, but only slightly more or less in number or quantity

#### OR

**Similar:** similar in nature, appearance, or has the same characteristics as something else.

#### **Arid**



#### **Arid**

An arid area is dry and hot, with little rainfall and few plants.

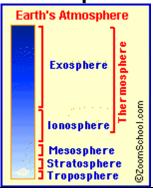
#### Asteroid belt



#### **Asteroid belt**

An asteroid is a large rock or small planet orbiting the Sun. Most asteroids lie in a belt between Mars and Jupiter.

# Atmosphere



# **Atmosphere**

The atmosphere is the gas that surrounds a planet.

#### **Attracted**

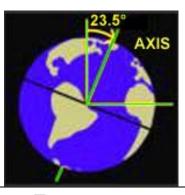


#### **Attracted**

To draw objects nearer

The magnet (attracted) pulled iron objects toward it.

#### **Axis**



#### **Axis**

As Earth revolves around the Sun, it rotates, or spins, on its axis, an imaginary line that runs between the North and South poles.

Earth's axis of rotation is inclined (tilted) 23.5°

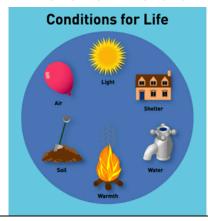
# **Balance**



#### **Balance**

We use a balance to find the mass of an object.

#### Basic need



#### **Basic** need

All living organisms must have food, water, shelter and space; these are the basic needs for life.

#### **Biome**



#### **Biome**

A biome is the natural place in a particular climate where many plants and animals live. Some biomes include the rainforest, tundra, and desert.

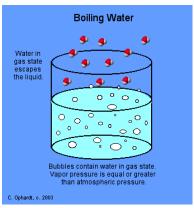
# **Boiling**



# **Boiling**

When a liquid is so hot that it changes to a gas it is boiling.

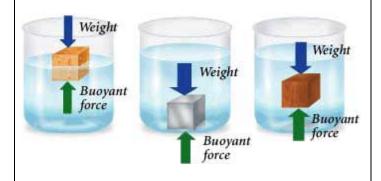
# **Boiling point**



# **Boiling point**

The temperature at which a substance changes from a liquid to a gas.

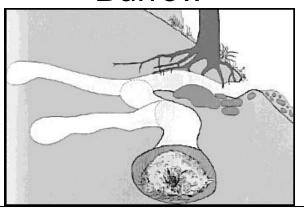
#### Buoyancy



# **Buoyancy**

Buoyancy is a force that causes floating. It is the ability of a liquid or gas to cause less dense objects to float or rise to the surface.

#### **Burrow**



#### **Burrow**

Burrows are tunnels that some animals dig. Many animals live underground in burrows.

Camouflage



# Camouflage

The shape, color, or pattern of an animal that helps it blend in with its surroundings.

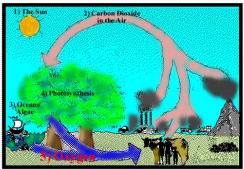
Capacity



# Capacity

The maximum amount that can be held or taken in.

# Carbon-dioxide oxygen cycle



# Carbon-dioxide oxygen cycle

The movement of carbon dioxide and oxygen between organisms and the air. Plants change carbon-dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into Oxygen when they make their own food.

#### Carnivore



#### **Carnivore**

Carnivores are animals that eat meat. They usually have sharp teeth and powerful jaws.

Centigrade



A temperature scale which is based upon the freezing point of pure water (set at O degrees) and the boiling point of pure water (set at 100 degrees). The temperatures in between 0 and 100 degrees are divided into 100 equal units. This is why it's called the **Centigrade** scale (centi - grade = 100 parts).

#### Centimeter



#### Centimeter

A centimeter is a unit of measurement that is equal to one-hundredth of a meter.

# Chemical change



# Chemical change

When one of more substances change into one or more new substances with different properties than the original substances. Baking soda and vinegar make a chemical change.

Chlorophyll



Chlorophyll is a molecule that can use light energy from sunlight to turn water and carbon dioxide gas into sugar and oxygen (this process is called photosynthesis). Chlorophyll is usually green.

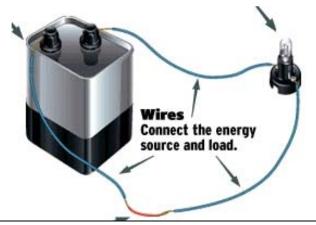
# Classifying



# Classifying

Arranging things based upon similar characteristics.

Closed circuit

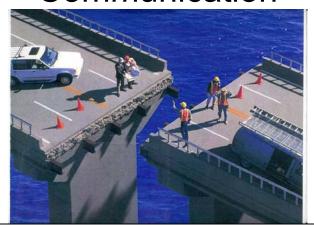


#### **Closed circuit**

In a closed circuit, the electrons have a complete pathway to flow through.

The device starts working.

# Communication



#### Communication

An exchange of information: the exchange of information by speaking, writing, or using a common system of signs or behavior.

# Compared



# **Compared**

To have examined (two or more objects, ideas, people, etc.) to see how they are the same and how they are different.

Compete



# Compete

To try to outdo another for food, sunlight, water, space, etc.

Desert plants compete for water.

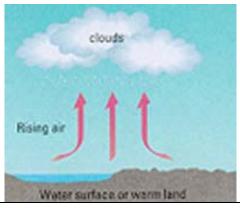
Conclusion



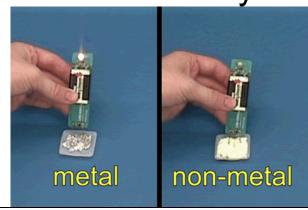
# Conclusion

The end, the final part, the result, the outcome, The final decision. The judge has reached his conclusion.

## Condensation



# Conductivity



#### **Condensation:**

The process by which moisture in the air changes to liquid or solid form. (Rain, clouds, or snowflakes.)

# Conductivity

The ability of an object or substance to allow heat, electricity, or sound pass through it.

#### **Conductor of electricity**



# Conductor of electricity

Any material that allows an electric current to pass through it easily.

# Conservation



#### Consumer



Control



#### Conservation

The wise use and protection of natural resources including plants, animals, mineral deposits, soils, clean water, clean air, and fossil fuels.

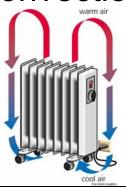
#### Consumer

A consumer is a living thing that eats other living things to survive. It cannot make its own food.

#### **Control**

To keep all the variables the same except the one variable being tested.

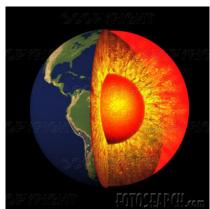
#### Convection



#### Convection

The movement of heat energy through liquids and gasses in currents.

Core



Core

The innermost part of Earth. The core of Earth extends from beneath the mantle to the very center of the planet and is made of solid metals.

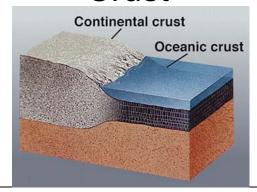
Crater



#### Crater

A crater is a funnel-shaped depression produced by a volcanic eruption, or a bowl-shaped hole on the surface of or a planet caused by the impact of a meteorite.

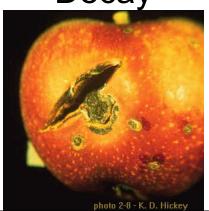
## Crust



#### Crust

The thin outer layer of the Earth made of solid rock.

Decay



# **Decay**

To become rotten: to be broken down; to become soft, crumbly, or liquid.

Decomposer



# **Decomposer**

Decomposers are organisms like fungi and some bacteria that break down and digest dead materials and wastes.

# **Density**



$$D = \frac{A}{M}$$

# **Density**

Density is the amount of mass in an object.

(Density will not change even if the force of gravity changes)

# Deposition



# **Deposition**

Deposition is the process in which materials eroded by water, wind, or ice are dropped in a new place.

#### Describe



#### **Describe**

To explain something by giving details of its characteristics

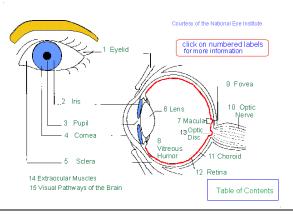
# **Determining Factor**



#### **Determining Factor**

The one thing that decides or controls the outcome of an experiment. The determining factors for a fire are fuel, heat and oxygen. If you take away any one of these factors, the fire will go out.

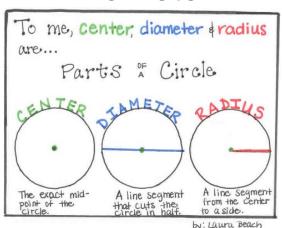
# Diagram



# Diagram

A diagram is a simple drawing showing the basic shape, layout, or workings of something.

#### Diameter



#### **Diameter**

A diameter is a line through the center of circle: a straight line running from one side of a circle through the center to the other side.

#### Direction



# **Direction**

A direction can be the way in which somebody or something goes points or faces, or the instructions given by somebody.

#### Dissolved



#### **Dissolved**

To become absorbed in liquid: to make a solution with another substance.

**Diversity** 



# **Diversity**

Diversity means to have a variety of something. There is a diversity of insects in Texas

# Earthquake



#### **Earthquake**

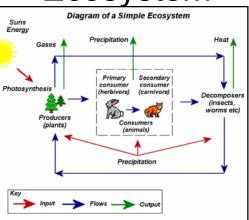
An earthquake is the shaking of Earth's crust that may cause destruction to buildings. An earthquake happens when there is a sudden release of pressure along a fault line in the earth, or from volcanic activity.

# Eclipse Light from sun Umbra (total solar eclipse) Path of Earth Penumbra (partial solar eclipse)

#### **Eclipse**

One object in space casting its shadow on another object in space. When the Moon moves through the shadow of the Earth it loses its direct light from the Sun. An eclipse of the Sun takes place when the Moon comes between the Earth and the Sun so that the Moon's shadow sweeps over the face of the Earth.

## **Ecosystem**



# **Ecosystem**

An ecosystem is a piece of nature. Nature with plants, animals, microorganisms, water, wind, minerals and more. An ecosystem can consist of land, water and air.

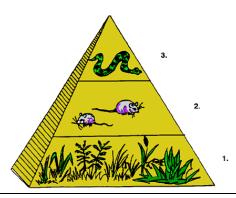
# Energy



**Energy** is the ability to do work.

Energy exists in various forms—including kinetic, potential, thermal, chemical, electrical, and nuclear—and it can be converted from one form to another.

# **Energy pyramid**



An energy pyramid is a diagram that shows the amount of energy that passes on at each level of a food chain. A small amount of the energy stored in plants, passes into herbivores (plant eaters) as they feed, and a similarly small percentage of the energy in herbivores then passes into carnivores (animal eaters).

#### **Environment**



#### **Environment**

An environment is the surroundings that an organism lives in.

**Erosion** 





#### **Erosion**

Removal of surface material from the Earth's crust and the moving of the materials. Wind action, weather, river and stream processes, sea waves, and glaciers cause erosion.

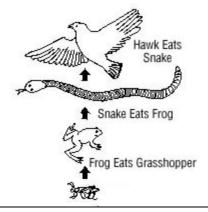
# Evaporation



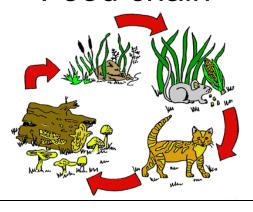
#### **Fault**



#### Feed on



#### Food chain



# **Evaporation**

Evaporation is the process of changing a liquid into a gas, for example, when liquid water becomes water vapor.

#### **Fault**

A Fault is a crack in the crust of the earth along which there has been movement of the rocks on either side of the crack.

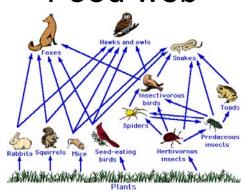
#### Feed on

A way of food getting in which one animal, the predator, eats an animal of another species, the prey.

#### Food chain

The path of food energy from one organism to another in an ecosystem.

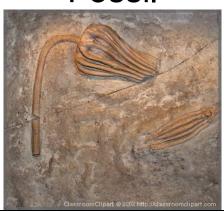
## Food web



## **Force**



#### Fossil



#### Food web

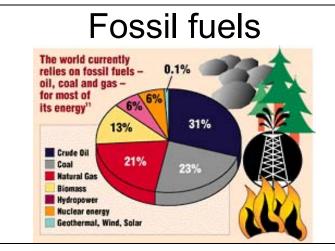
A food web is overlapping food chains with different pathways for the flow of food energy in an ecosystem.

#### **Force**

A push or pull on anything.

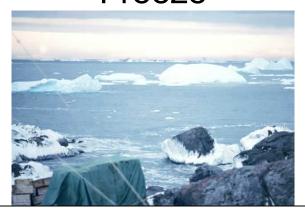
#### **Fossil**

A part of, an impression of, or a trace of an animal or plant from a long time ago that has been preserved in the Earth's crust. Traces of organisms may also occur as tracks, trails, or even borings.



Fossil fuels are formed form the decayed remains of ancient plants and animals that have been changed by physical and chemical processes within the Earth's crust into a solid (coal), a liquid (petroleum), or a gas (natural gas).

#### Freeze



#### **Freeze**

To change from a liquid to a solid when temperature drops.

Freezing point



# **Freezing point**

The temperature at which a substance changes from a liquid to a solid.

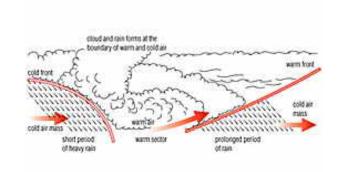
#### Friction



#### **Friction**

A force between two surfaces rubbing against each other.

#### **Front**



#### **Front**

A place where one air mass meets and pushes aside another air mass

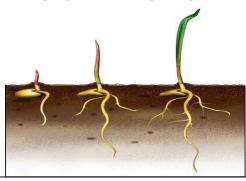
# Geothermal energy



# Geothermal Energy

Heat from melted rock deep below Earth's surface.

#### Germination



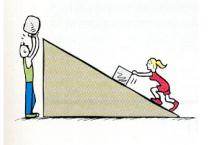
# Germination

The sprouting of a plant from a seed.

#### Grams



Gravitational energy



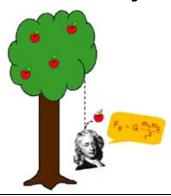
#### **Grams**

A metric unit of mass.

# **Gravitational Energy**

Energy is needed to overcome gravity.

Gravity



**Gravity** 

The force that pulls objects toward each other.

Habitat



**Habitat** 

The environment where an organism lives.

#### Hardness



#### **Hardness**

The ability of a mineral to resist being scratched.

Heat energy



# **Heat energy**

A form of energy that is felt as temperature.

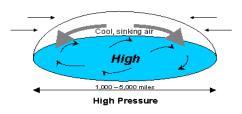
Herbivores



#### **Herbivores**

An animal that eats only plants or plant products.

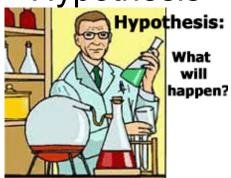
High pressure



# **High pressure**

An area where the air pressure is higher than it is in surrounding areas.

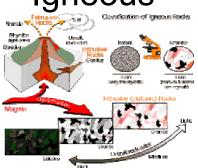
# Hypothesis



# **Hypothesis**

An idea that can be tested by an experiment or an observation.

# Igneous



# Igneous

Rock that formed from cooled magma or lava.

# Imprints of



# Imprints of

An effect that remains and is recognizable for a long time.

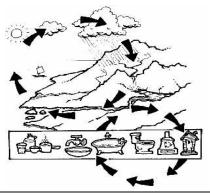
# Individuals



#### **Individuals**

An independent organism separate from a group.

#### Inexhaustible



#### Inexhaustible

Everlasting, impossible to use up.

#### Infer



#### Infer

An explanation that you can figure out without observing directly.

#### Inherited



#### **Inherited**

A characteristic that is passed form parent to offspring.

# Inner planets



# **Inner planets**

Any of the four planets whose orbits lie closest to the sun and are within the asteroid belt.

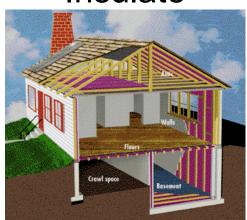
#### Instinct



#### **Instinct**

A behavior that an animal inherits from its parents.

Insulate



#### Insulate

To prevent or reduce the passage heat, electricity, or sound into, from, or through something.

Insulator



**Insulator** 

A material that does not let heat energy, electricity, or sound energy pass through it easily.

Interdependence



# Interdependence

An inability to exist or survive without each other.

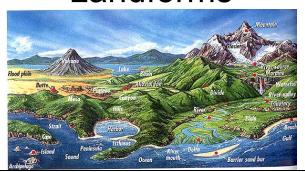
# Kinetic energy



# **Kinetic energy**

The energy of motion.

Landforms



#### Landforms

A natural structure on Earth's surface.

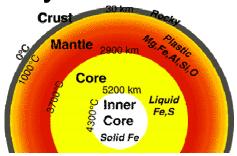
Lava



Lava

Melted rock that flows out of the ground onto Earth's surface.

Layers of earth



# Layers of earth

The earth is divided into four main layers; the inner core, outer core, mantle, and crust.

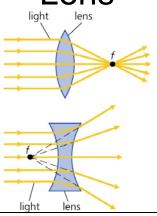
#### Learned behavior



#### Learned behavior

A behavior that an animal develops by observing other animals or by being taught.

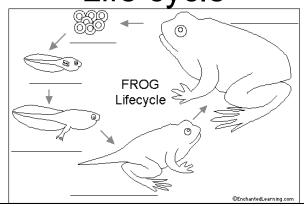
#### Lens



#### Lens

A curved piece of clear glass, or plastic that bends light rays.

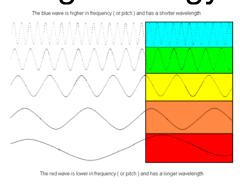
# Life cycle



# Life cycle

The stages of growth and development that an organism goes through in its lifetime.

# Light energy



# **Light energy**

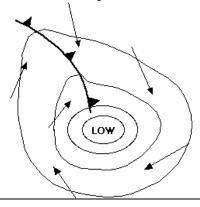
A form of energy that travels in waves and can move through empty space where there is no air.

# Liter

#### Liter

A metric measure of volume.

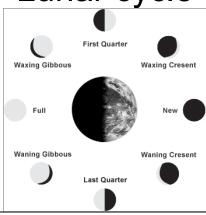
# Low air pressure



# Low air pressure

An area where the air pressure is lower than the surrounding areas.

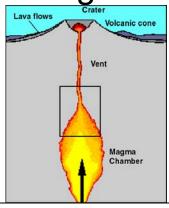
# Lunar cycle



# Lunar cycle

The phases of the moon that occur due to the spinning of the planet or moon on its axis.

# Magma



# Magma

Melted rock below Earth's surface

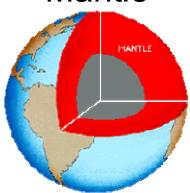
# Magnetism



# **Magnetism**

A force that pulls magnetic materials across a distance.

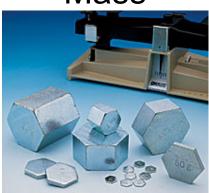
#### Mantle



#### **Mantle**

The earth layer below the crust made of melted rock.

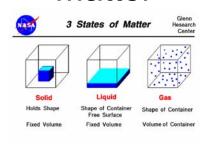
#### Mass



#### **Mass**

The amount of matter in an object or substance.

#### Matter



#### **Matter**

The material, or stuff, that everything is made of.

#### Mature



#### **Mature**

An adult, or fully grown.

Measuring



# Measuring

A particular system that is used to determine the dimensions, area, volume, or weight of something.

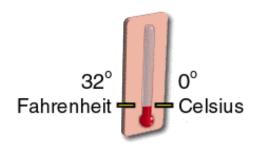
Melting



# **Melting**

When a substance changes from a solid to a liquid.

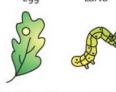
Melting point Melting Point



# **Melting point**

The point (temperature) at which a solid changes to a liquid.

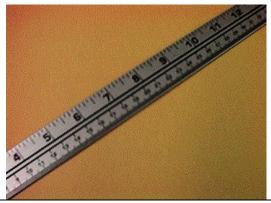
# Metamorphosis







#### Meter



# **Metamorphosis**

The changes in form that some insects go through during their lifecycle.

#### Meter

A metric measurement of length.

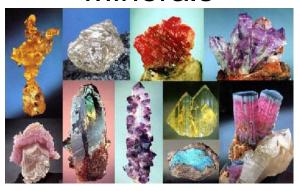
# **Mimicry**



# **Mimicry**

One organism's looking like another kind of organism in its environment so it can escape predators or catch prey.

## **Minerals**



#### **Minerals**

A solid natural material that has a crystal form and its own set of properties.

#### **Mixture**



#### **Mixture**

A combination of two or more substances that do not from a new substance.

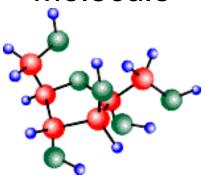
## Model



#### Model

A picture, idea, or object that represents an object or process.

## Molecule



# Motion



Natural resource



#### New moon



#### Molecule

A particle of matter made of two or more atoms joined tightly together.

#### **Motion**

A change in the position of an object.

#### **Natural resource**

Materials in the environment that are useful to people.

#### **New moon**

One of the four phases of the Moon, during which it is directly between the Earth and the Sun and invisible or seen only as a narrow crescent.

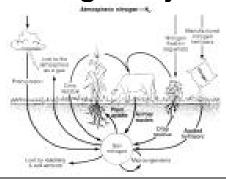
#### **Niche**



#### **Niche**

The role that an organism plays in its environment.

#### Nitrogen cycle



#### Nitrogen cycle

The movement of nitrogen between organisms and their surroundings.

#### Non renewable



#### Non renewable

Resources that nature cannot replace quickly enough to meet people's needs.

#### Observe



#### **Observe**

To watch somebody or something attentively, especially for scientific purposes.

#### **Omnivore**



#### **Omnivore**

An animal that eats both plants and animals.

**Orbit** 



#### **Orbit**

The path that one object in space takes around another object in space.

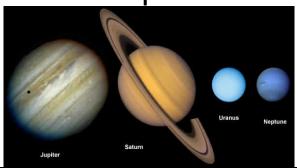
Organism



#### **Organism**

A single living plant, animal, bacteria, or virus.

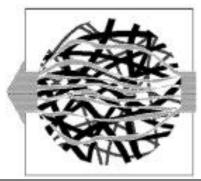
#### Outer planets



#### **Outer planets**

Planets with an orbit outside the asteroid belt.

#### Permeable



#### **Permeable**

To allow substances to pass through.

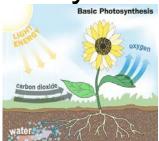
Petroleum



#### **Petroleum**

A liquid fossil fuel; also called crude oil.

Photosynthesis



#### **Photosynthesis**

The process of using the energy in sunlight to make food from water and carbon dioxide.

#### Physical change



#### Physical change

A change from one form to another without turning into a new substance.

## **Pitch** Pitch How high or low a sound is. **Pollinated Pollinated** The transfer of pollen from the stamens to the pistil of a flower. Potential energy **Potential energy** Energy that is stored in an object.

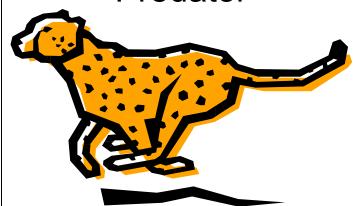
#### Precipitation



#### **Precipitation**

Water that falls to Earth's surface as rain, snow, sleet or hail.

#### **Predator**



#### **Predator**

An animal that hunts, catches, and eats another animal.

#### Prey



#### **Prey**

An animal that is hunted, caught, and eaten by another animal.

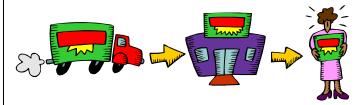
#### **Procedures**



#### **Procedures**

Steps to follow to produce a product.

**Processes** 



#### **Processes**

A series of changes by which something passes from one condition to another.

#### Producer



#### **Producer**

An organism that makes its own food.

#### **Properties**



= wet

#### **Properties**

A quality or attribute, especially one that serves to define or describe something.

#### Pupa

The stage in the life cycle of some insects when the organism changes from a larva to an adult.

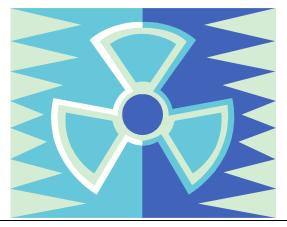
#### Radiation

The movement of energy through space as waves.

#### Pupa (Chrysalis)



#### Radiation



## Reaction Reaction A response to a stimulus. Record Record To set down in writing. Reflected Reflected The bouncing back of light rays from a surface.

#### Refracted



Relationship



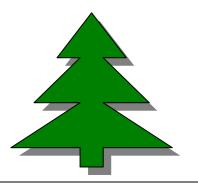
The bending of light rays as they move from one material into another material.

#### Relationship

The state of being connected.



Renewable resources



Renewable resources

Resources that nature replaces as they are used.

## Reproduce

## Reproduce

To make more organisms of the same kind.

Reptile





An animal that has a backbone and dry, leathery skin or scales, breathes air with lungs, and lays eggs with leathery shells or gives birth to live young.

Results

#### Results



Something that comes about as an effect or end.

#### Retained



#### Retained

To hold unchanged.

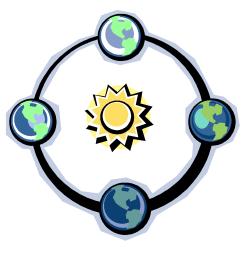
Revolution



#### Revolution

Completing a fixed course.

Revolve



#### Revolve

To travel in a closed path around an object such as Earth does as it moves around the sun.

## **Root** Root Plant structures that hold a plant in place and take in water and nutrients from the soil. Rotation **Rotation** The spinning of Earth on its axis. Satellite **Satellite** An object that orbits a planet.

#### **Sediments**



Sedimentary Rock



Seed



#### **Sediments**

Bits of rock, soil, sand, shell and the remains of organisms.

#### Sedimentary Rock

Rock that formed when sediments were pressed and cemented together.

#### Seed

A structure produced by a plant that contains a tiny undeveloped plant and a supply of food for the plant.

#### Seedling



#### Seedling

A young plant grown from seed.

Senses



Senses

Specialized functions of the body that involve the action and effect of a stimulus on a sense organ. (sight, taste, touch, feel and hear)

Separate



#### **Separate**

To set or keep apart.

#### Sequence



#### Sequence

The order in which things are or should be connected, related, or dated.

Similar



#### **Similar**

Having qualities in common.

Soil



#### Soil

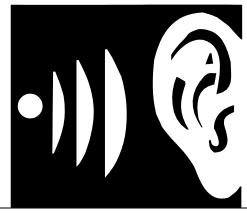
Material made of tiny pieces of rock, minerals, and decayed plant and animal matter.

## Solar energy Solar energy **Energy from** sunlight. Solar flare Solar flare An eruption on the sun's surface. Solar system Solar system A sun and all the objects that move around it.

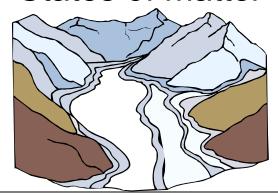
#### Solution



#### Sound



States of matter



#### **Solution**

A mixture with one substance spread out so evenly in another substance that you cannot tell the two substances apart.

#### Sound

A form of energy produced by vibrating objects.

#### States of matter

Forms that matter can take – solid, liquid, or gas.

# Stationary

### **Stationary**

Not changing; stable.





**Stem** 

The part of a plant that holds the leaves up to sunlight and moves water, nutrients and food through the plant.

Structures



#### **Structures**

The arrangement or relationship of parts.

## Sun's corona Sun's corona The sun's atmosphere made of hot gases. System **System** A group of parts combined to form a whole that works or moves as a unit. Tectonic plates **Tectonic plates** The sections of Earth's crust. Telescope Telescope A tool for observing distant objects.

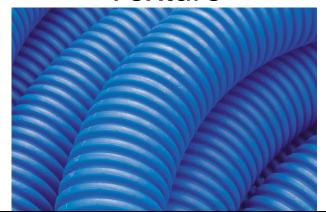
#### Temperature



#### **Temperature**

The average speed of the particles in a substance.

**Texture** 



#### **Texture**

The structure, feel and appearance of something.

Thermal energy



#### Thermal energy

The energy of moving particles in a substance. (also called heat energy)

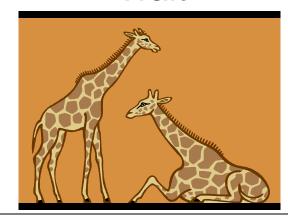
#### Tides



#### **Tides**

Changes in water level at the shoreline that are caused by the pull of gravity between Earth and its moon.

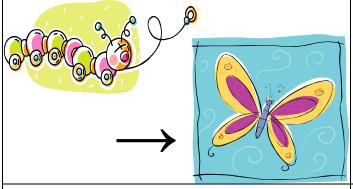
**Trait** 



#### **Trait**

A characteristic of an organism.

**Transform** 



#### **Transform**

To change completely.

**Transmitted** 



#### **Transmitted**

To pass or cause to pass through space or through a material.

## **Undergo changes** Undergo changes To become different. Valid **Valid** Based on truth or fact. Variables **Variables** The things which can change in an experiment.

#### **Vibrate**



#### **Vibrate**

The rapid backand-forth movement that produces sound.

#### Volcano



#### Volcano

A mountain built up from hardened lava, rocks, and ash that erupted out of Earth.

Volume



#### Volume

The amount of space that an object or substance takes up.

#### Water cycle



#### Water cycle

The change of water from one state to another as it moves between Earth's surface and the atmosphere.

#### Wave



#### Wave

A repeating up-anddown or back-andforth movement of matter.

#### Weathering



#### Weathering

The breaking down and wearing away of rock.

Weight



#### Weight

A measure of the pull of gravity on an object.