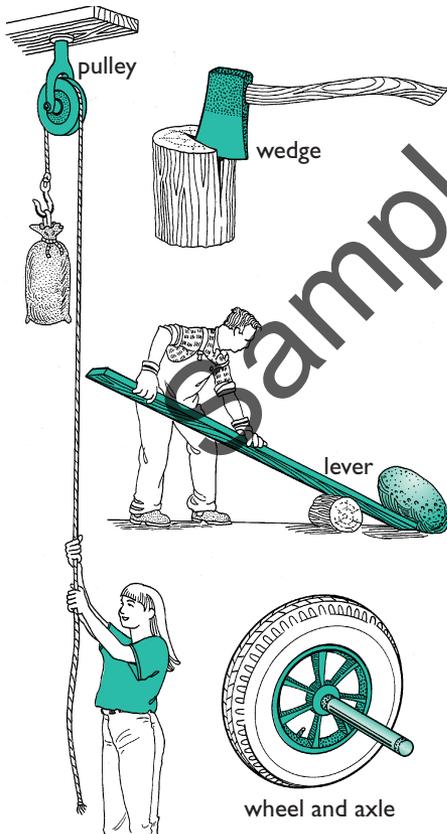




## machine

A device used to do work; usually referring to things made up of a number of parts.



Examples of simple machines.

## maggot

A small, white worm-like grub which hatches from the egg of an insect such as the fly.

See fly, larva

## magma

Hot molten rock under the crust of the Earth's surface.

See lava, volcano

## magnet

A piece of metal which attracts objects made from iron.

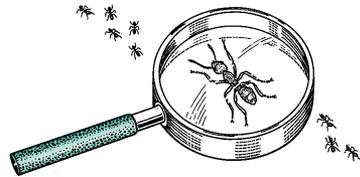
## magnetite

Magnetic raw iron ore. Used to make magnets.

See magnet

## magnifier

A lens used to make things look larger.



## mammal

A member of the class of warm-blooded vertebrate animals. Mammals have body hair, and their young feed on the milk of their mother. The monkey, whale, horse, dog, goat, human are all mammals.

## mammoth

One of many species of large extinct elephant. The woolly mammoth had hairy covering and long curved tusks. Evidence of mammoths is found worldwide. Early people hunted mammoths for food.

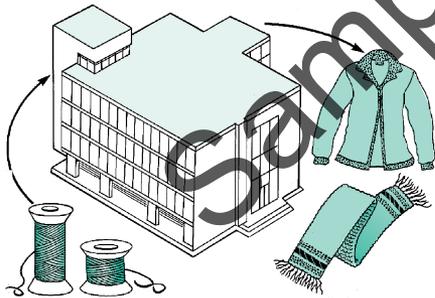
## mantle

A layer of rocks between the crust and the core of the Earth. It is partly solid, partly liquid, like a thick paste. It is very hot and always moving. This layer ranges in depth from 40 to 3480 km.

See earthquake

## manufacture

To make objects by hand or machinery, sometimes on a large scale.



Manufacturing process.

## marble

Limestone or other metamorphic rock. Marble is easily cut and polished. It is a rock with attractive textures and colours and is used for making statues and as a building material.

See metamorphic rock, rock

## Mars

The fourth planet from the sun.

See solar system

## marsupial

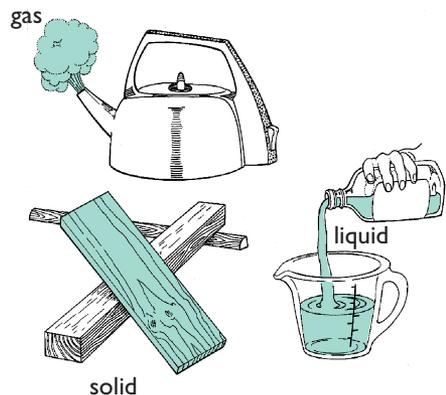
The order of mammals in which the young are born and move to a pouch where they drink their mother's milk. Most marsupials are native to Australia. The kangaroo, koala, possum and wombat are all marsupials.

## material

Anything of which something is made, e.g. bricks, glass, wood, leather, tin. Refers especially to cloth.

## matter

Anything that takes up space and can be weighed. Three states of matter are solid, liquid and gaseous.

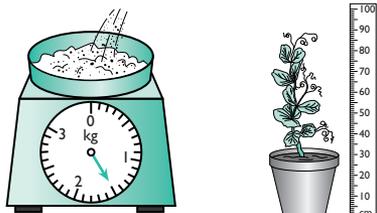


States of matter.

See gas, liquid, solid

## measure

To find out the size or amount of something, such as its weight or length.



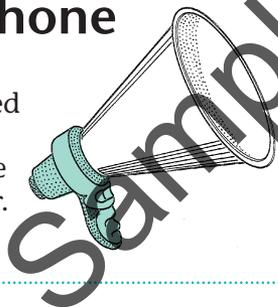
Measuring devices.

## medicine

- (i) The study, treatment and prevention of disease.
- (ii) Any substance used to treat disease.

## megaphone

A large funnel-shaped instrument used to make sound louder.



## melt

To change from a solid to a liquid, usually through heating, e.g. ice at room temperature melts to water.

## mercury

White silvery metal. Liquid at room temperature. Used in some thermometers and barometers.

See metal

## Mercury

The closest planet to the sun.

See solar system

## metal

Any one of a group of chemical substances which includes aluminium, gold, iron, mercury, silver, steel and zinc. Most are grey or silver. Most metals are good conductors of heat and electricity. Metals expand when heated and contract when cooled.

Metal	Properties	Used in the manufacture of
aluminium	Good conductor of electricity Light in weight	Kitchen foil, saucepans Building and construction
copper	Good conductor of electricity Malleable	Electrical wire Water pipes
iron	Tough and hard Can be cast, forged, machined, rolled	Building and construction Tools Machinery Steel
mercury	Liquid at room temperature Poisonous	Thermometers Electric switches
silver	Good conductor of electricity Malleable	Coins Jewellery Photography Medicine Batteries
zinc	Prevents rusting Combines with other metals	Coats iron and steel Bronze = zinc + copper + tin Brass = zinc + copper Batteries

See also aluminium, bronze, copper, gold, iron, mercury, silver, steel, zinc

## metamorphic rock

Changed rock; volcanic or sedimentary rock changed from its original form by heat or pressure.

Rock	Changes to
Limestone	heated → marble
Limestone	pressurised → quartzite
Shale	heated → slate
Shale	pressurised → schist

Changes to rock.

See rock, sedimentary, volcanic

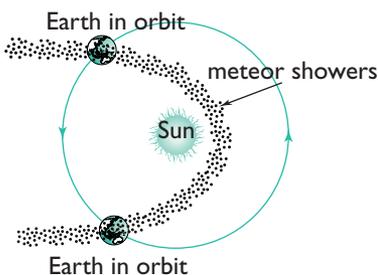
## metamorphosis

The change from one form or shape of an animal to another, especially of an immature form to an adult form, e.g. a frog changing from tadpole to adult frog.

See life cycle

## meteor

A small mass of rock and metal moving around the sun. Also known as dwarf planets. Meteors light up when passing through the Earth's atmosphere, resembling falling stars. Commonly called 'shooting stars'.



Meteor showers.

## meteorology

The study of weather and climate.

See climate, weather

## micro-organism

Living things that can only be seen with a microscope, such as bacteria and viruses. Also referred to as microbes. Includes most single-celled organisms.

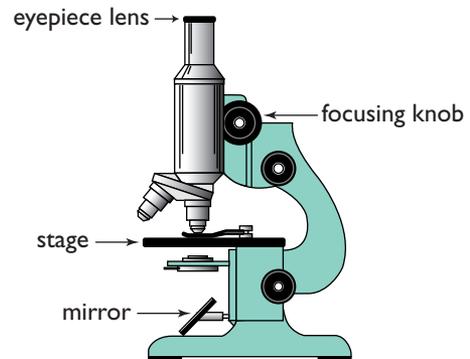
## microphone

A device which changes sound waves into electrical waves. Sound waves are sent along wires to loudspeakers. Used when recording sounds or making sounds louder.



## microscope

A device with lenses which is used to make small objects appear larger. Used to identify and study micro-organisms.



See micro-organism

## migrate

To move from one area to another. Many animals move location according to seasons. For example, some birds migrate between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres in search of warmer weather.

## Milky Way

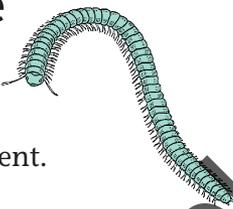
The galaxy in which Earth is located. Resembles a spiral.

See galaxy

## millipede

An arthropod with many legs. It has two pairs of legs per segment.

See arthropod



## mineral

Found in nature. Minerals are made up of substances that were never alive. Atoms of a mineral are crystalline.

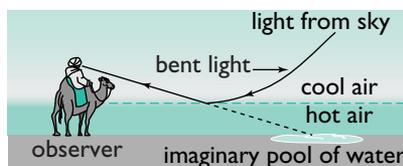
Mineral	Mineral hardness	Used to make
talc	1	talcum powder, chalk
graphite	1–2	pencil lead
gypsum	2	plaster of Paris
diamond	10	jewellery

Some minerals, their hardness and their uses.

See metal, Mohs scale

## mirage

An optical illusion caused by atmospheric conditions. A person may see an object that appears to be in the distance, such as a sheet of water on a hot road or in a desert.



## mirror

Any shiny surface that reflects light. Usually refers to a sheet of glass which is coated with silvery paint on its back surface, and which reflects an image, e.g. a bathroom mirror, a car's rear-view mirror.

## modem

A device that allows computers to connect to other computers using telephone lines.

## Mohs scale

A scale for classifying the relative hardness of minerals.

Mineral hardness	Common examples of hardness	
10 diamond	scratches all natural materials	
9 corundum 8 topaz 7 quartz 6 orthoclase	scratches a penknife blade or window glass	
5 apatite 4 fluorite		
3 calcite		scratched by a copper coin
2 gypsum 1 talc		scratched by a fingernail

See also mineral