

## STATES OF MATTER (teacher's notes)

### INTRODUCTION

#### About matter:

- Atoms join together to make molecules. For example two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom join together to make one molecule of water.
- “Molecules are so small that it is almost impossible to see them, even with powerful microscopes” (*101 Cool science Experiments*, published in 2005 by Hinkler Books Pty Ltd, Australia).
- Most matter is visible, but some matter is invisible (e.g. air).
- Water is different from most other substances because it exists in all three states of matter: solid as in ice and snow; liquid as in rivers, seas and oceans; and gas as in water vapour.

#### Activity 1: Classify these things into solids, liquids and gases.

Steam is an invisible gas.