

# Vocabulary



**atom** the smallest piece of an element that still has all the properties of that element

An atom is made up of protons, neutrons, and electrons. The protons and neutrons are found in the nucleus. The electrons move around the nucleus.

**electron** a particle with a negative charge

Electrons circle the nucleus of an atom.

**element** a substance that is made up of all the same kind of atom

Hydrogen, oxygen, and neon are some of the over 100 elements on Earth. Most elements are found combined with other elements in nature. Water is made of one oxygen atom and two hydrogen atoms joined together.

**neutron** a particle with no charge  
Neutrons are found in the nucleus of an atom.

**nucleus** the center of an atom  
An atom's protons and neutrons are located in the nucleus.

**Periodic Table** a chart of all the elements known on Earth  
The elements are arranged in the table according to their properties.

**proton** a particle with a positive charge  
Protons are found in the nucleus of an atom. The "atomic number" of an element tells how many protons it has in the nucleus of its atoms.