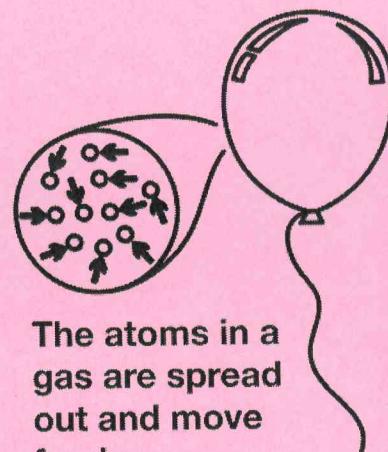


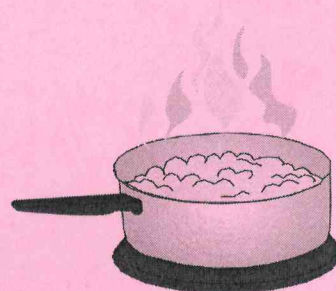
Gases do not have definite shape or volume. Like liquids, gasses will take the shape of their containers. If a gas is not in a container, it will spread out indefinitely. This is because the atoms in a gas are spaced farther apart than in a solid or a liquid. And being spread out like this allows them to move around freely. Think about the air you breathe everyday. That air is spread across the empty space around the earth. You've probably also noticed that you usually cannot see the air. This is another property of gases. Even though we cannot see them, you come in contact with them everyday. There's air in the tires of your family car and your bicycle. There are many different types of gas in the earth's atmosphere, such as oxygen, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, water vapor, and helium.

When trying to remember the three states of matter, think about water. If it freezes into a solid, it becomes ice. Its atoms are packed together keeping its shape. Of course, we know water can also be a liquid. It flows in rivers or it can be poured from a glass. When water evaporates it becomes water vapor, a type of gas in the air. Try a little experiment of your own by placing an ice cube in a covered glass or container. You will be able to observe the ice first in its solid form and then watch as it melts into a liquid to become water. Eventually the water will turn to water vapor and your glass or container will be filled with this gas.

## Gas



**The atoms in a gas are spread out and move freely.**



**You can see three different states of matter in this picture. The pot is made of solid matter. The water inside the pot is liquid. When the liquid is heated it becomes water vapor, which is a gas.**

**Matter is everywhere! Can you find a solid, a liquid, and a gas around you right now?**