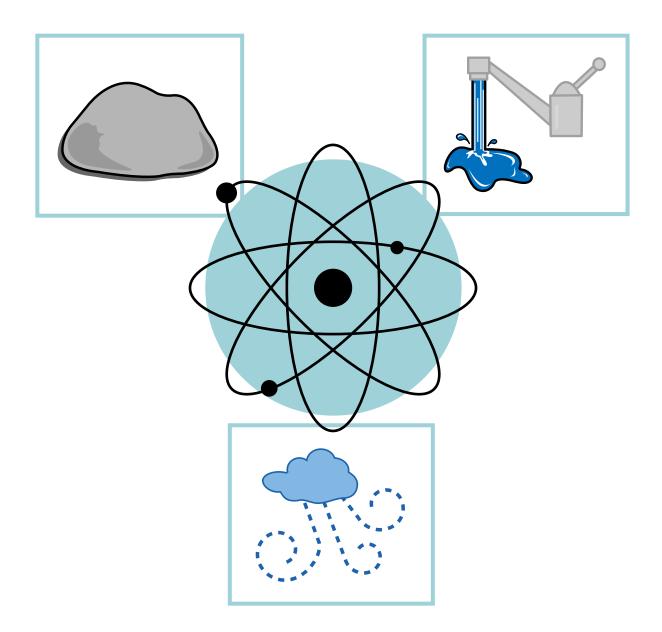
## What's It Made of ?

## Level H/I



## by Kathy Staugler

**Illustrated by Travis Schaeffer** 

Our world is made up of many materials. Scientists call these materials substances. To learn about a substance we ask, "What is it made of?" Rocks, water, and air are made of materials. Yet the substances in rocks, water and air are very different. When we look and feel rocks, water or air, we know that they are different.

Each substance is made of tiny little building blocks called *atoms*. Billions of atoms are grouped together to make a

substance.

Scientists

have a name

for these

different



kinds of atoms. They call them elements.

Oxygen is an element. Oxygen is an

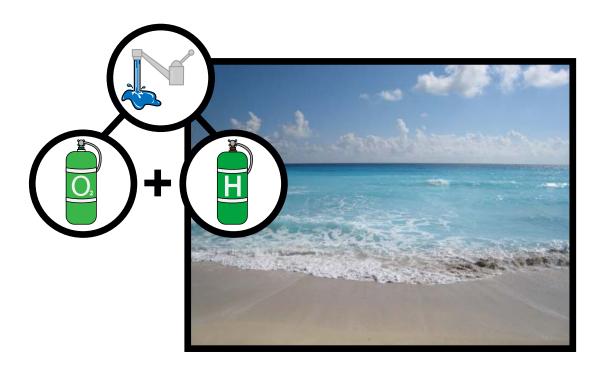
element in air. We need oxygen



to breathe.



Carbon dioxide is a combination of two elements. It is made of carbon and oxygen. Carbon dioxide is a gas in the air that plants use to make food. We cannot see carbon dioxide or oxygen. But both of them are in the air around us.

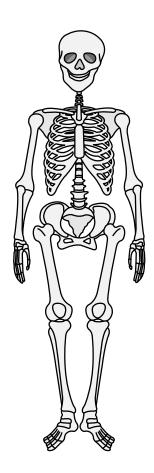


Pure water is a combination of two elements. Water is made of oxygen and hydrogen. In the water, fish use the oxygen to breathe. The ocean water has salt in it. The ocean has salt in the water. Water also has minerals that come from the soil and plants.





Milk has many elements. Most of milk is water. Milk also has the element of calcium. Our body needs calcium to help our teeth and bones grow.





6

Scientists learn how to mix different elements to make new things for us. Before scientists learned about atoms, they looked at materials and described them. How does it look? How does it feel? How does it smell? We can be a scientist when we describe something. 7 Scientists also learn about substances when they mix them up. Scientists are like cooks who mix ingredients to make

a cake. How does the batter change when we mix water and eggs to the



mix? How does the batter change when we heat it in the oven? This is how a scientist learns about new substances.





What's It Made of ?





mix breathe substances rock water air look feel scientist oxygen atom elements B C N O F Ρ s CI Se Br carbon hydrogen smell fish ocean dioxide calcium body milk salt 52 S

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Leveled Book, What's It Made of ?, Level H/I

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