matter - anything that has mass and takes up space; all of the "stuff" in the universe; made of elements and/or combinations of elements

compress - push closer together and

take up less space

expand - pull farther apart and

take up more space

Particle - smallest piece of a

substance that is still that substance

literally translates to "little part"

solid - state of matter in which particles

are tightly bonded together; has definite

shape and volume

liquid - state of matter in which particles

are loosely bonded and can flow over and around each other; has definite volume and no definite shape

gas - state of matter in which particles move independently of each other to fill all available space; has no definite shape or volume