

**What is everything made of?**

Characters:

**Narrator**

**Democritus**

**Aristotle**

**Robert Boyle**

***Narrator:*** I am going to interview three people in history about their ideas on what everything is made of. Here's the first one. Who are you?

*Enter Democritus.....*

***Democritus:*** My name is Democritus. I was born in Northern Greece in 460 BC. I spent a lot of time thinking about what everything is made of. I wrote 70 books.

***Narrator:*** So what did you come up with?

***Democritus:*** I reckoned that everything consists of an infinite number of very small particles. I called them atoms. I think there are many different kinds of atoms, each with its own size and shape.

***Narrator:*** That sounds an interesting idea. Could you prove it? Did you have any evidence?

***Democritus:*** No, unfortunately not. Everyone decided it was a crazy idea and just didn't believe me. They listened to this character instead.

*Enter Aristotle*

**Aristotle:** Yes, it's me, Aristotle. I was also born in Greece, a little after my friend here, in 384 BC. You have probably heard of me because I'm really famous.

**Narrator:** Um, your name is familiar... so what was your idea about what everything is made of?

**Aristotle:** Well, I looked around me and I reckoned that everything must be made from a mixture of 4 things: earth, fire, air and water.

**Narrator:** And what did people think of this idea?

**Aristotle:** They thought it was a great idea for hundreds of years! I couldn't really prove it, but everyone could see the earth, fire, air and water, so they believed me.....until this bright spark came along....

*Enter Robert Boyle*

**Boyle:** Hi, I'm Robert Boyle. In 1661 I wrote a book called "The Sceptical Chemist". I had done quite a few experiments and I reckoned that Aristotle here had got it all wrong.

**Narrator:** So what did YOU think?

**Boyle:** I am sure that good old Democritus was right all along and everything is made of small moving particles. It explains my experiments, so I've got some evidence to back up the theory.