Atmosphere  
   
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An atmosphere is a layer of gases that envelop an astronomical object, held in place by the gravity of  
the object. The name originates from Ancient Greek ■τµ■ς (atmós) 'vapour, steam' and σφα■ρα  
(sphaîra) 'sphere'. An object acquires most of its atmosphere during its primordial epoch, either by  
accretion of matter or by outgassing of volatiles. The chemical interaction of the atmosphere with the  
solid surface can change its fundamental composition, as can photochemical in