Describing and Classifying Matter- Guiding Questions

Directions: Answer each of the following three questions. Each answer should be 4-6 sentences long for EACH question, with details from the textbook to back up your response.

What is matter made of? Matter is another word for the stuff things are made of. Planet Earth is made of matter and so are all the planets, and moons in the universe. All matter is made up of tiny particles called atoms. Matter takes on different forms depending on how the atoms are arranged. That is what matter is made out of.

What properties describe matter? Physical properties are used to observe and describe matter. Physical properties include texture, color, odor, melting point, and many others. Physical properties are characteristics that can measure without changing the mass, color, and volume. Those are the properties to describe matter.

How can you classify different types of matter? Matter can be found on Earth in three main forms of solids, liquids, and gases. Solids are materials that have a shape and volume that stays the same. Liquids are a type of matter that changes shape depending on the shape of its container like a glass, cup, or a water bottle. That is the way you can classify different types of matter.