

**Lesson 4 – The Concept of Density**

THE FOLLOWING VIDEO HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR ALL AUDIENCES BY THE EARTH SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC. THE VIDEO HAS BEEN RATED


**I** INTELLIGENT  
UNDER 15 REQUIRES TEACHER ASSISTANCE

STRONG EARTH SCIENCE LANGUAGE, DETAILED DIAGRAMS, AND SUPER AWESOMENESS

- I can find the relative density of an object.
- I can explain why density does not change based on size or shape.
- I can describe how temperature affects density
- I can describe how pressure affects density
- I can explain how phases of matter affect density

**Determining Relative Density**

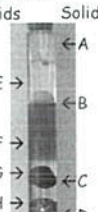
- Relative Density is comparing one density to another and finding an estimated density
- For example:  
Pumice floats in water. What do you think its estimated density is?  
Less than one g/cm<sup>3</sup>



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Put the following objects and liquids in order of least dense to most dense.

		Liquids	Solids
Least Dense	A		← A
	E		
	B	E →	← B
	F		
	G	F →	← C
	H		
Most Dense	D	G →	← D
			H →





**Dead Sea**

- Regular ocean has 35g of salt per liter (1,000 ml). The water in the Dead Sea has 345g per liter (1,000 ml).
- Almost 6x more salty than the ocean
- NO Fish or Plants



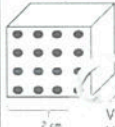
Since human bodies have a lower density than the water of the Dead Sea, people can float in it effortlessly. The extremely salty water holds people up instead of letting them sink.

**What is Density?**

- A Fusibility
- B Weight
- C Volume/Mass Ratio
- D Mass/Volume Ratio


- Density is a ratio of Mass to Volume
- If you cut an object in  $\frac{1}{2}$  you are reducing the mass & volume by  $\frac{1}{2}$  so the density will stay the same



2 cm

$V = L \times W \times H$   
 $V = 2 \times 2 \times 2$   
 $V = 8 \text{ cm}^3$

$D = M/V$   
 $D = 16\text{g} / 8 \text{ cm}^3$   
 $D = 2 \text{ g/cm}^3$



2 cm


$V = L \times W \times H$   
 $V = 1 \times 1 \times 1$   
 $V = 1 \text{ cm}^3$

$D = M/V$   
 $D = 8\text{g} / 4 \text{ cm}^3$   
 $D = 2 \text{ g/cm}^3$

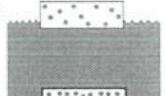
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### Changes that Affect Density

- Temperature:
  - If an object is heated, molecules move further apart
  - Therefore there is less mass per unit of volume
  - If an object is cooled, the molecules move closer together and density increases again.



### Example

Heated object → 

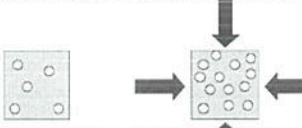
Cooled object → 

(Draw Picture)

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### Pressure


- If pressure increases, molecules move closer together and mass increases
  - more mass per unit volume & a higher density
- Opposite happens if pressure decreases



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### Phases of Matter and Density

- Density of a substance changes with changes in its phase (state) of matter
- Most substances have a higher density as a Solid, because the molecules are closer together.



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- The exception to this rule is water.
- Water has its greatest density at 3.98°C.



This is why ice floats in water!