

- Electricity is an essential property of matter
- Electricity is best understood by looking at matters smallest practical state...the atom

Electricity

• An atom is comprised of basically three distinct particles.

-_____ -_____

- Electrons have a ______(-) charge.
- Protons have a _____ (+) charge.
- Neutrons have <u>NO</u> charge.

Electricity

- Normally an atom has an equal number of electrons and protons. Thus the atom has no net charge since the charges cancel out.
- If an atom has lost or gained an electron then the atom is no longer balanced.
- An atom that has an unbalanced number of protons and electrons is called an

Electricity

- Free electrons can move through many materials such as metals and gases at nearly the speed of light.
- Free electrons can also just rest on a surface.

• An atom that looses an electron and thus has more protons than electrons is called a

Electricity

• An atom that picks up a stray electron and thus has more electrons than protons is called a _____

Electricity

• A group of electrons on a surface causes the surface to be negatively charged. Since the electrons are not moving, the surface is said to have a <u>Static Electrical</u> Charge

• Mechanical friction, light, heat or a chemical reaction may remove electrons from a surface. This causes the surface to have a net positive charge. This is referred to as a <u>Static Electrical Charge</u>

Electricity

• Opposite and like charges - Just like magnets, like charges repel and opposites attract.

	Electricity
• The Electroscope lab	