

# Vocabulary

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*Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.*

**alchemists** ..... a group of people who searched for a way to turn ordinary metals into gold

**atomic mass unit (amu)** ..... a unit of mass equal to the mass of a proton or a neutron;  $\frac{1}{12}$  of the mass of a carbon atom

**atomic number** ..... a number used to identify an element and represent its placement in the periodic table; identifies the number of protons in the nucleus of an atom

**atomic mass** ..... the mass of protons and neutrons found in the nucleus of an atom

**group** ..... elements arranged in a vertical column on the periodic table representing similarities in properties

**metal** ..... a substance that has a specific luster, is usually a good conductor of heat and electricity, and can be pounded or drawn into various shapes

**nonmetal** ..... an element that does not have the properties of a metal

# Vocabulary

**period** ..... arrangement of elements into horizontal rows on the periodic table

**periodic table** ..... a table showing the arrangement of the chemical elements according to their atomic numbers and chemical properties

**rare** ..... not common or usual; hard to find

**theory** ..... an idea or explanation based on scientific experiment