



# Steam

**When water gets very hot it boils and turns into steam.**

When you heat water very strongly bubbles form in the very hot water. They rise to the top and pop. We say that the water is boiling.

The bubbles are made of steam. When the bubbles pop the steam goes into the air. We cannot see steam. The steam cools down quickly in the air. This makes it change into tiny water drops. The water drops make the white clouds you can see near the spout of a kettle.



You can see the bubbles of steam in this boiling saucepan of water.

This is a boiling kettle.



Steam is very powerful. It can make huge jets of water spurt up into the air in geysers. Steam is also powerful enough to drive steam engines, and to run power stations that make electricity.



This is a steam train. The train is pushed along using the pressure of steam in the boiler of the engine.

Natural jets of boiling water and steam spurt out of the ground to make natural fountains called geysers.



**Why should you be careful to keep out of the way of steam?**