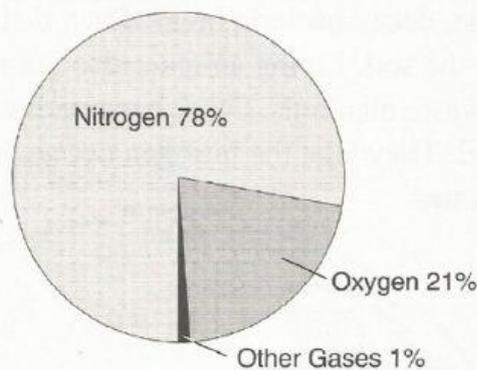


What Is Air Made Of?

You can't see **air**. It is made up of invisible gases. Two of these gases, nitrogen and oxygen, make up almost all of the air. Most living things cannot survive without oxygen. For example, we need oxygen to help our bodies get energy from the food we eat.

Living things need nitrogen to make new cells, but they cannot take the nitrogen directly from the air. Nitrogen must first be combined with other elements. The air contains other gases, too, such as carbon dioxide. We give off carbon dioxide when we breathe out and when we burn fuel. Carbon dioxide and the other gases besides nitrogen and oxygen make up just one part in a hundred parts of air.

COMPOSITION OF AIR



Answer these questions.

1. How much of the air is made up of nitrogen? _____
2. Which gas makes up 21 percent of the air? _____
3. How much of the air is made up of other gases? _____
4. We breathe in oxygen and give off carbon dioxide. Is there more oxygen or more carbon dioxide in the air? _____
5. Which gas makes up the largest part of air? _____