**The History of the Atom**

* As with many scientific ideas, the understanding of the atom has changed overtime.
* Although some ideas were later shown to be incorrect, they are still important to the process of arriving at the understanding we have today.

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|  | **Model** | **Summary** | **Key Word(s)** |
| **Democritus** |  |  |  |
| **Dalton** |  |  |  |
| **Thomson** |  |  |  |
| **Rutherford** |  |  |  |
| **Bohr** |  |  |  |
| **Electron Cloud Model** |  |  |  |

* Although assumed true today, there is always the possibility that ideas may change again in the future.

**The History of the Atom - KEY**

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|  | **Model** | **Summary** | **Key Word(s)** |
| **Democritus** |  | * Developed the idea of atoms: atoms are the smallest possible bit of matter | Solid |
| **Dalton** |  | * Atoms were like tiny, hard balls * Each chemical element had its own atoms that differed from others in mass | Different atoms |
| **Thomson** |  | * Discovered the electron * “Plum pudding” model | Plum Pudding |
| **Rutherford** |  | * Electrons orbit the atomic nucleus like planets round the Sun | Solar System |
| **Bohr** |  | * Bohr modified Rutherford's model by introducing the idea of energy levels | Energy levels |
| **Electron Cloud Model** |  | * Describes where electrons are located as they rotate around the nucleus of an atom | Cloud |

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