

## Vocabulary: Conduction and Convection

### Vocabulary

- Conduction – the transfer of heat from one object to another by direct contact.
  - When you touch a hot potato, heat is transferred to your finger by conduction.
  - When you touch a cold ice cube, heat is transferred away from your finger by conduction.
- Conductor – a material that allows heat to flow through.
  - Most metals are good conductors.
- Convection – transfer of heat through movement of matter.
  - In a *convection current*, a hot material rises while a cool material sinks. For example, heated air inside a hot-air balloon causes the balloon to rise.
- Insulator – a material that resists the flow of heat.
  - Nonmetals are usually good insulators.