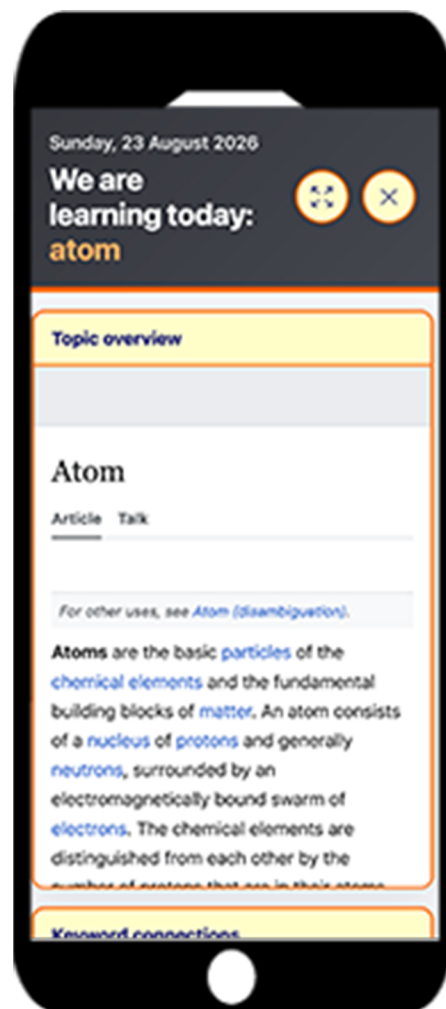
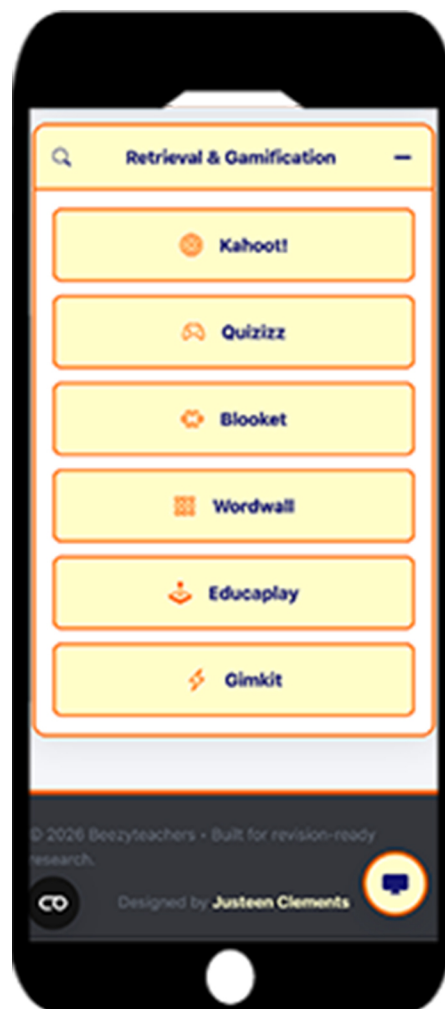
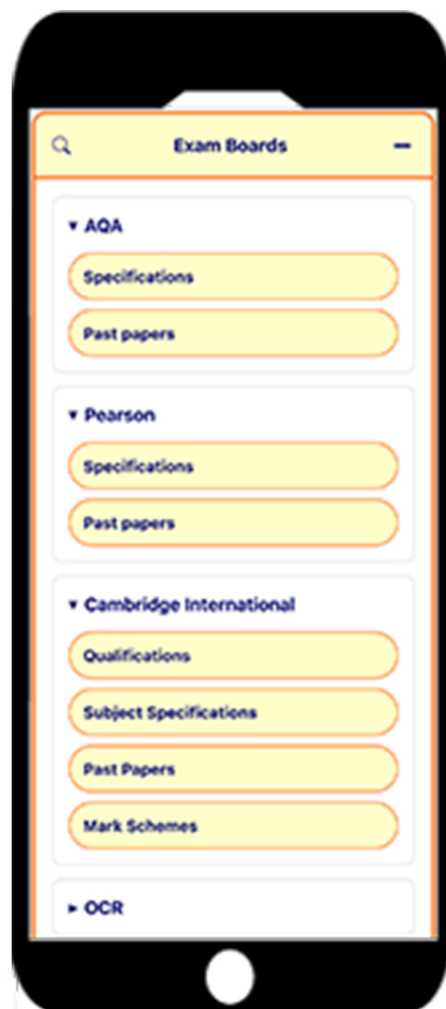
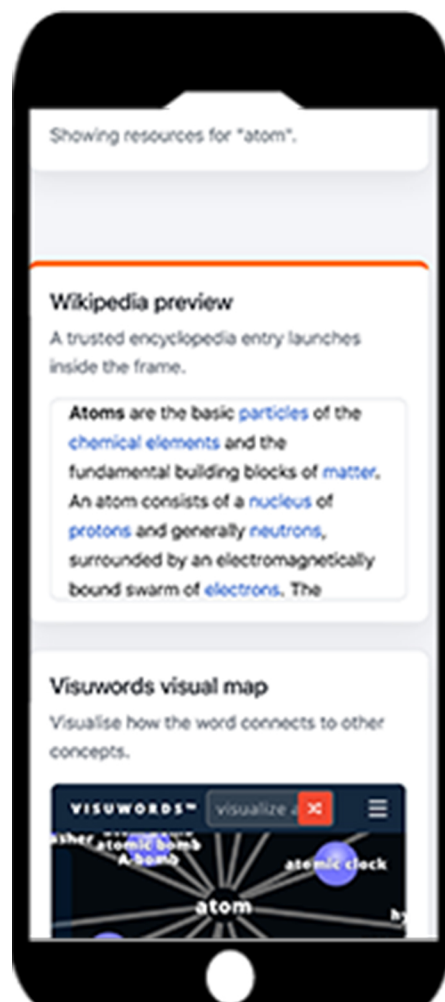
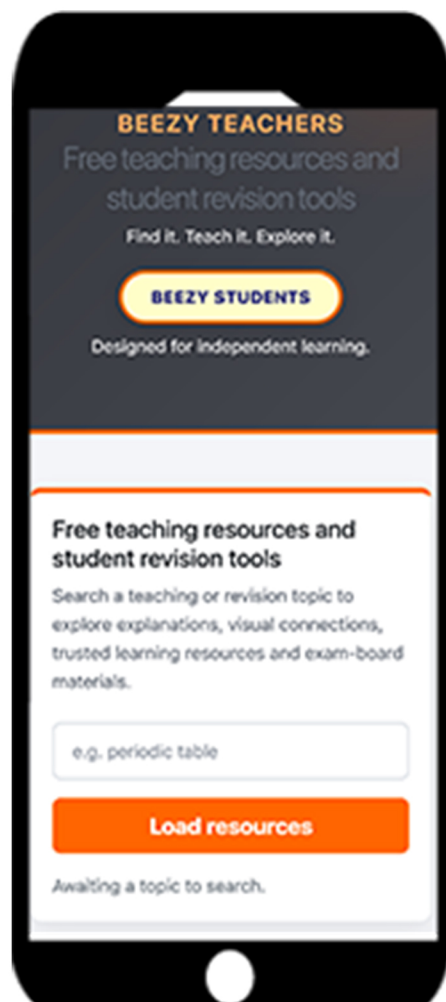




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A trusted encyclopedia entry launches inside the frame.

Atom

Article Talk

For other uses, see [Atom \(disambiguation\)](#).

Atoms are the basic [particles](#) of the [chemical elements](#) and the fundamental building blocks of [matter](#). An atom consists of a [nucleus](#) of [protons](#) and generally [neutrons](#), surrounded by an electromagnetically bound swarm of [electrons](#). The chemical elements are distinguished from each other by the number of protons that are in their atoms. For example, any atom that contains 11 protons is [sodium](#), and any atom that contains 29 protons is [copper](#). Atoms with the same number of protons but a different number of neutrons are called [isotopes](#) of the same element.

Atoms are extremely small, typically

Atom

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atomic number

nuclear energy

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Atom

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Atom

Keyword connections

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atomic mass, atomic weight, relative atomic mass
(chemistry) the mass of an atom of a chemical element expressed in atomic mass units



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