

**BIOLOGY 101**  
**CHAPTER 2: THE CHEMISTRY OF LIFE**

Life on earth is a physical and chemical phenomenon.

**Matter**- the physical material of the universe that has mass and takes up space.

What are the types of matter? **THE ELEMENTS**

**ORGANIZATION OF MATTER**

**ELEMENT**- A fundamental substance, Cannot be broken apart by chemical means.

There are **92** naturally occurring elements

**Bulk elements** in living organisms are the six major elements. **CHONPS**

**Trace elements** are needed in lesser amounts.

**Periodic table of elements** - Reading the periodic table – Letter(s)-chemical symbol

Number above – atomic number, Number below – atomic mass

**STRUCTURE OF ATOMS**

ATOMIC THEORY - 1820 - John Dalton said that an **ATOM** is the smallest particle of an element

**What is in the Atomic Nucleus?**

**Protons(+)** - A positively charged particle      What is the mass of this particle? ONE

**Neutrons (0)** - A neutral particle      What is the mass of this particle? ONE

**Atomic Number** = Protons **EACH ELEMENT HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE NUMBER OF PROTONS**

What effect does the number of protons have on an element? **Protons make each element unique – different properties**

**Atomic Mass**= Protons + Neutrons      What is mass? **Mass is measurable.**

**Isotopes**- Atoms with different number of neutrons

**Radioisotopes**- Emit radioactivity when the neutrons spontaneously decay.

Radioisotopes have a half-life **HALF OF THE ATOMS OF AN ISOTOPE DECAY**

Uses of radioactivity - **ENERGY, WEAPONS, POWER, ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH, MEDICAL RESEARCH, MEDICAL TREATMENTS**

**What is outside the atomic nucleus?**

**Electrons(-)**- A negatively charged particle

(Why is the number of electrons equal to the number of protons?)

**Atoms must have enough negative electrons to balance their positive protons.**

**Energy Levels**- Set distances from the nucleus of an atom where electrons are distributed.

**OCTET RULE**- Each energy level is satisfied with eight electrons except the first, which is satisfied with two.

**Ions**- Atoms that either gains or loses one or more electrons.

When an atom loses electron(s) it becomes a **POSITIVE ION.**



When an atom gains electron(s) it becomes a **NEGATIVE ION.**



**CHEMICAL INTERACTIONS BETWEEN ATOMS INVOLVE ELECTRONS.**

**Inert** - Nonreactive - has a satisfied outer energy level (Helium, Neon – far right row of periodic table)

**Reactive** - Outer energy level is not satisfied. (Hydrogen, Carbon)

**Molecule**- Two or more atoms joined (O<sub>2</sub>, O=O) Atoms bond to form molecules.

**Compound** - Two or more different atoms joined    H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>

**Mixture** - two or more elements that are intermingled in proportions that vary (not joined)

**MOLECULAR BONDS** (Chemical Bonds - Electron links between atoms)

**Chemical reactions** – breaking old bonds and reforming new bonds

**Ionic Bonding**- Electrons are transferred from one atom to another and they are linked by positive and negative charges. We will use table salt **NaCl** as our main example.

**Covalent Bonding**- Shared pairs of electrons (2 pair = double covalent, 3 pair = triple covalent)

Nonpolar - Equal sharing of electrons      Ex. O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>

Polar - Unequal sharing of electrons gives partial charges on the molecule Ex. H<sub>2</sub>O, NH<sub>3</sub>, DNA, &

Proteins

**Hydrogen Bonding**- Links between a charged part of a molecule and a hydrogen that is covalently bonded. Water molecules have hydrogen bonds between them.

## **PROPERTIES OF WATER**

### **WATER'S COHESION**

**Cohesion**- Attraction between two water molecules

**Surface Tension**- Cohesion is stronger at the surface of a body of water

**Adhesion**- Attraction of water molecules to hydrophilic substances

**Meniscus** - Attraction of water to glass that causes a curved surface at the edge

**Capillarity**- Combination of cohesion and adhesion that causes water to rise in a tube

**POLARITY OF THE WATER MOLECULE** - 105° angle of bonding

**Hydrophobic**- Substances repelled by water. Name some OIL, WAX, BUTTER, SHORTENING

**Hydrophilic**- Substances attracted to water. Name some SUGAR, KOOLAID, TEA, COFFEE

### **WATER'S SOLVENT PROPERTIES**

**Solvent**- A substance capable of dissolving other molecules. (The greater amount)

**Solutes**- Any substance that has been dissolved. (The lesser amount)

What is the solvent in iced tea? WATER What are the solutes? TEA, SUGAR, LEMON JUICE

**Solution** – one or more solutes dissolved in a liquid solvent

### **WATER REGULATES TEMPERATURE**

Water absorbs more heat than other liquids before its temperature rises.

What does this mean when you try to boil water? MORE HEAT = MORE WATER LEAVING

**Evaporation** is conversion of liquid to a vapor.

How do you benefit from this property of water? SWEATING COOLS OUR BODIES.

### **Water Expands as It Freezes**

Water expands when it freezes, forming a solid called ICE.

How does ice protect organisms? Organisms survive below ice in warmer water.

How does ice destroy living cells? Ice can rupture delicate cells.

Why does ice float? Water molecules are further apart in ice so it is less dense.

### **Water Participates in Life's Chemical Reactions**

**Water is used in reactions that break apart biomolecules.**

**Water is released in reactions that build biomolecules.**

### **ORGANISMS BALANCE ACIDS & BASES**

**Neutral**– has a balance of H<sup>+</sup> and OH<sup>-</sup>

**Acids** - Molecules capable of releasing H<sup>+</sup> in a solution (pH = <7) pH indicator used in lab – **Phenol red**

**Bases** - (Alkaline ) - Molecules capable of releasing hydroxide ions or accepting H<sup>+</sup> in solution (pH = >7)

**pH Scale** (logarithmic) - Used to measure the concentration of free H<sup>+</sup>.

### **Buffer Systems Regulate pH in Organisms**

**BUFFERS** and the pH of Body Fluids - Buffers help to keep the intracellular and extracellular fluids at the proper pH.  $H_2O + CO_2 \rightleftharpoons H_2CO_3 \rightleftharpoons HCO_3^- + H^+$

### **CHEMICAL INTERACTIONS IN CELLS**

**Keeping proteins in solution.** (How? CHARGED AREAS ON PROTEINS CLING TO WATER)

**Using ions to conduct nerve impulses.** (How? IONS STAY IN SOLUTION IN WATER)

**Using ions to contract muscle cells.** (How? DISSOLVED IONS MOVE INTO MUSCLE CELLS)

### **The Effect of Water on Life (How?)**

Moderates temperature changes WATER HEATS AND COOLS SLOWLY PROTECTING ORGANISMS

Cushions delicate cells and tissues WATER ALLOWS MANY CELLS TO RETURN TO SHAPE

Solvent for and participant in cellular chemical reactions. WATER IS LIFE'S PRIMARY SOLVENT.

## WATER PARTICIPATES IN CHEMICAL REACTIONS IN LIVING CELLS.

Serves as habitat for many organisms MANY ORGANISMS LIVE IN WATER.

### ORGANIC MOLECULES GENERATE LIFE FORM AND FUNCTION

**ORGANIC COMPOUNDS** – The molecules of life contain carbon and at least one hydrogen. The broad name for them is **organic**. All other substances are **INORGANIC**. Ex. CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, NaCl

Most organic compounds contain carbon in chains or rings.

### **BIOMOLECULES** (NIT)

More specifically, the compounds that are part of or come from living organisms are **biomolecules**.

### **BONDING SITES:** (NIT)

Carbon atoms have four electrons in their outer energy level so they have 4 bonding sites.

**Single bonds** in carbon compounds can rotate.

**Double bonds** in carbon compounds hold are rigid.

### **CARBON BONDING AND FUNCTIONAL GROUPS** (NIT)

Carbon chains or rings form a backbone to which other atoms can be attached.

**Functional groups** are small clusters of atoms that impart specific chemical properties to the molecules to which they are attached.

**MONOMERS** - small subunits of biomolecules

**POLYMERS** - three up to millions of subunits monomer + monomer + monomer = polymer

### **CHEMICAL REACTIONS THAT BUILD AND BREAKDOWN ORGANIC MOLECULES**

**DEHYDRATION SYNTHESIS**- covalently bonding two smaller molecules (monomers) makes dimmers or polymers and releases water molecule s

**HYDROLYSIS** (Digestion) - splitting larger molecules (polymers) into smaller ones (monomers)uses water (Hydrolyze, Hydrolytic)

**BIOMOLECULES**- are organic compounds. There are four main types of biological molecules. They are polymers of monomers linked by covalent bonds.

Four families of biomolecules

Monomers of the four families of biomolecules

**CARBOHYDRATES-**

**MONOSACCHARIDES**

**LIPIDS**

**FATTY ACIDS**

**PROTEINS-**

**AMINO ACIDS**

**NUCLEIC ACIDS-**

**NUCLEOTIDES**

### **A. CARBOHYDRATES INCLUDE SIMPLE SUGARS AND POLYSACCHARIDES**

-most abundant biomolecules in nature - structural components and energy reserves.

They contain carbon, hydrogen and oxygen in a ratio of 1:2:1 (CH<sub>2</sub>O).

**Monosaccharides**- (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>6</sub>) **GLUCOSE**, Fructose, Galactose

**Disaccharides**- Glucose + Fructose = **SUCROSE** Other disaccharides - Lactose, Maltose

**Polysaccharides**: complex carbohydrates Common polysaccharides are composed of glucose.

**CELLULOSE**- plant molecules used in cell walls, abundant in paper and wood

**CHITIN** - molecule used in arthropod shells and the cell walls of fungi

**STARCH** - plant method of storing glucose

**GLYCOGEN**- animal method of storing glucose

### **B. LIPIDS ARE HYDROPHOBIC AND ENERGY RICH**

**Lipids** - Can serve as long term energy storage molecules or as building blocks of cells.

The common link between the different types of lipids is that they are all insoluble in water - **HYDROPHOBIC**.

**Fatty acids** are part of all the lipid molecules except the sterols.

**SATURATED fatty acids** have all single bonds in their carbon chains.

**UNSATURATED fatty acids** have one or more double bonds in their chains and so are not "saturated" with hydrogen atoms.

The four types of lipids are **Triglycerides** ( fats and oils), **Waxes**, **Phospholipids** and **Sterols**

**TRIGLYCERIDES**include fats and oils.

Each molecule contains a **glycerol** molecule bonded to three **fatty acids**.