@amoebasisters



BIOMOLECULE BROS!

Chemistry of Carbon

 Living organisms are made up of molecules that consist of carbon and other elements.



- Carbon atoms have four valence electrons, allowing them to form strong covalent bonds with many other elements, including hydrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, sulfur, and nitrogen.
- Carbon-carbon bonds can be single, double, or triple **covalent** bonds.

- The term "biomolecule" means a molecule present in living organisms that is necessary for survival.
- It is also known as: macromolecule ("macro" = large)
- Elements found in biomolecules: **C**, **H**, **O**, **N**, and/or **P**



- Biomolecules form by **polymerization**, in which small molecules join together to form large molecules.
- The building blocks of biomolecules are **monomers**.
- Monomer: ("mono" = one)
 - A small molecule that chemically bonds with a similar molecule to form a polymer.
- **Polymer**: ("poly" = many)
 - A large molecule made from monomers linked together by chemical bonds.



The four major groups of biomolecules found in living things are:



Carbohydrates

- Carbohydrates are also known as **sugars**.
- Elements: Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H), and Oxygen (O)
- Typically in a Ratio of: **1:2:1 Example (C₆H₁₂O₆)**
- Primary Function: Provide short-term or quick energy for cell activities



Carbohydrates



- Typical Structure: **Often a ring like a pentagon**
- Monomer: Monosaccharide ("one sugar")
- Polymer: Polysaccharide ("many sugars") or Disaccharide ("two sugars")
- Typically ends in -"ose"
- Examples:
 - Bread
 - Pasta
 - Potatoes



Lipids

- Lipids are also known as **fats**.
- Elements: Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H), and Oxygen (O)
- Primary Function: Provide long-term or stored energy for the organism



Lipids

- Typical Structure: Long hydrocarbon chain
- Monomer: Fatty Acids + Glycerol
- Polymer: Triglyceride
- Examples:
 - Oils
 - Waxes
 - \circ Steroids
 - Hormones



Proteins

- Elements:
 Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H), Oxygen (O), and Nitrogen (N)
- Primary Function: Provides structural support; Enzymes;
 Immune system



Proteins

- Typical Structure: Complex and varied
 - Primary Sequence of amino acids
 - Secondary Alpha helix, Beta pleated sheets
 - Tertiary Folding of secondary structures
 - Quaternary 3D structure of multiple amino acid chains
- Monomer: **Amino acids**
- Polymer: Polypeptide (amino acids linked together by peptide bonds)
- Examples:
 - Meat
 - o Beans



Nucleic Acids

- Elements: Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H), Oxygen (O), Nitrogen (N), and Phosphorus (P)
- Primary Function: Contains and carries the genetic information of an organism
- Monomer: Nucleotide
- Polymer: Polynucleotide (Nucleic acid)



Nucleic Acids

- Nucleotide Structure:
 Consists of 3 parts: a 5-carbon sugar, a phosphate group (-PO₄), and a nitrogenous base
- Examples:
 - O DNA
 - **RNA**
 - ATP (energy of cell)

