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From the Virtual Microbiology Classroom on ScienceProfOnline.com

Image: Compound microscope objectives, T. Port

# Chemistry of Microbiology

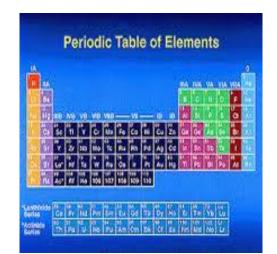


From the <u>Virtual Microbiology Classroom</u> on <u>ScienceProfOnline.com</u>

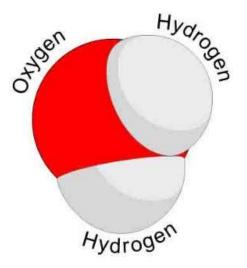
Image: Mannitol Salt Bacterial Growth Media, T. Port

### Elements, Atoms, Molecules & Compounds

- **Elements**  $\rightarrow$  Substances that can't be broken down any further.
- Atom  $\rightarrow$  The smallest unit of an element.
- Two or more atoms joined together chemically:
  Molecule



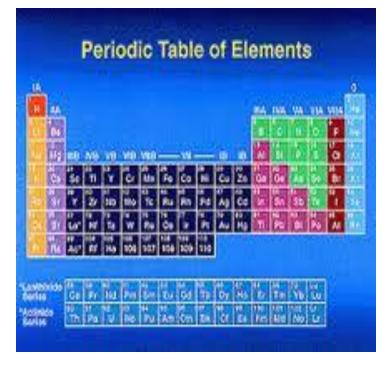
- Molecule containing at least two different elements:
  Compound
- **Examples of molecules:** Carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  and methane  $(CH_4)$ , molecular hydrogen  $(H_2)$ , molecular oxygen  $(O_2)$  and molecular nitrogen  $(N_2)$ .
- **Examples of compounds:** Only molecules containing two or more elements, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>).
- Q: Explain why all compounds are molecules but not all molecules are compounds.



## **Chemical Shorthand**

### Chemical Symbol

- Begins with one or two letters based on elements name.
- **Q**: What if there is more than one element that starts with the same letter?
- Example: Carbon (C), Calcium (Ca), Chlorine (Cl)



### Follow this link to see Daniel Radcliff (Harry Potter) sing "The Element Song".

### Chemical Formula

- "Shorthand" for a compound.
- Contains chemical symbols of the elements that make up the molecule.
- Numerical subscripts represent number of atoms of each element in molecule.
  Example: H<sub>2</sub>0 = water; has two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen.
- More than one molecule of same type...the group of letters is preceded by number. Example  $2H_20 =$  two water molecules.

Image: Periodic Table of Elements, NASA

### The Structure of an Atom

Atoms are the basis for everything in the universe.

Q: What are the three basic parts of an atom?

- ? = "-" negative charge
- •? = "+" positive charge
- ? = neutral (a charge of zero)
- The thing that makes each element unique is the number of protons, since the number of neutrons and electrons can vary.

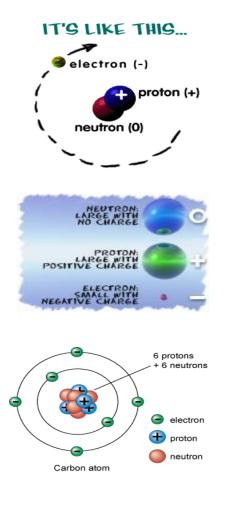
Protons and neutrons always in the center of atom (the nucleus).

Electrons are found whizzing around nucleus in areas called orbitals.

Q: If there is an equal number of electrons and protons in an atom, what is it's charge?

NERDY SCIENCE JOKE: A neutron walks into a bar and asks "How much for a drink?" *Q: What does the bartender tell him?* 

Images: Structure of Atom, <u>Chem4Kids</u> Website; Carbon, <u>Universe Today</u> Website Here are some examples:



### **Chemical Bonding and Electron Valences**

The electrons in an atom are located at different **energy** levels.

Electrons in the highest energy level are called valence electrons.

Number of valence electrons governs an atom's bonding behavior.

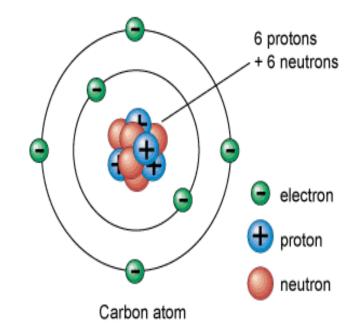
### *Q:* What is the <u>max number</u> of valence electrons for a full valence shell?

Atoms are much more stable, or less reactive, with a full valence shell.

By moving electrons, the two atoms become linked. This is known as **chemical bonding**.

This stability can be achieved one of two ways:

- Ionic bond - Covalent bond



### Three Main Types of Chemical Bonds:

# 1. Ionic

2. Covalent

3. Hydrogen

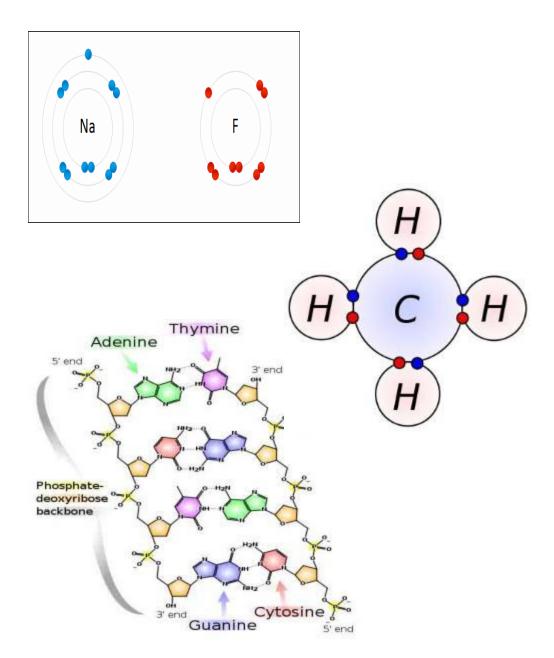
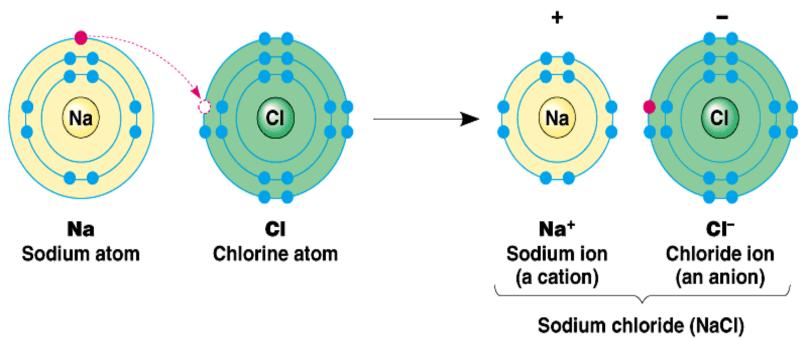


Image: Formation of ionic sodium fluoride, Wdcf; <u>Methane Covalent</u> <u>Bonds</u>, Dynablast, Wiki; <u>DNA Chemical Structure</u>, Madprime, Wiki

# **Ionic Bonds**

Involves transfer of electrons between two atoms.

Found mainly ... inorganic compounds.



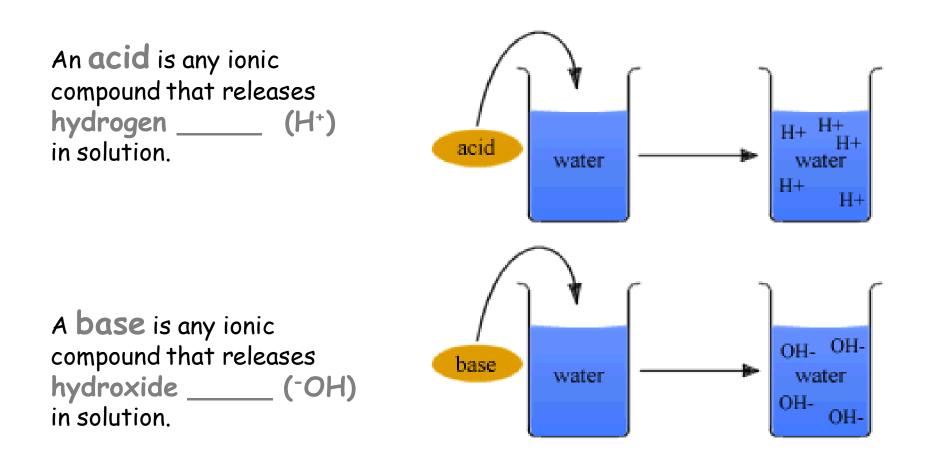
Copyright @ Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Benjamin Cummings.

**Ion** = an atom or group of atoms which have lost or gained one or more electrons, making them negatively or positively charged.

Q: What are positively charged ions (+) called?
 Q: What are negatively charged ions (-) called?

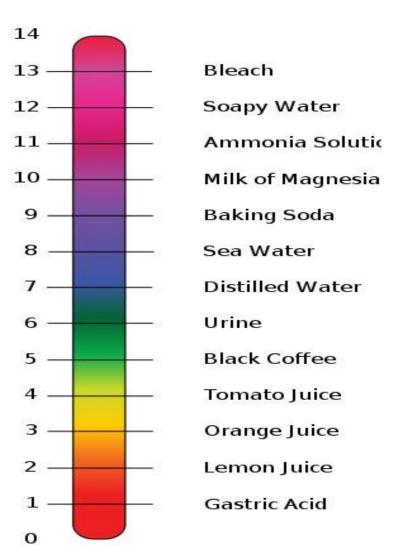
Images: Sodium Chloride, University of Winnepeg

# Ions: Acids & Bases



# Measurements of Acidity & Alkalinity (pH)

- Acidity of a solution > measured by concentration of hydrogen ions (H+).
- pH ranges: 0 (very acidic) to 14 (very basic).
- Change in just one unit of scale = tenfold change in H+ concentration.
- If concentration of H+ = OH -... neutral.



# Meet the Microbel Species: Helicobacter pylori

#### **GRAM NEGATIVE**

Microaerophilic, Acidophile Helically shaped Never <u>normal flora</u>

Robin Warran & Barry Marshall identified *H. pylori* in 1982, and discovered link between *H. pylori* and ulcers.

#### H. pylori virulence factors:

- Make proteins that inhibit acid production
- Flagella propel through stomach lining to epithelial cells
- Have adhesins
- Make enzymes to inhibit phagocytosis

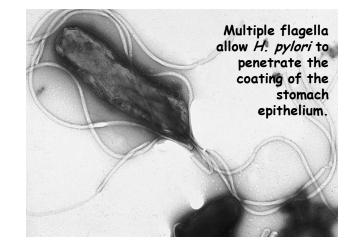
#### What Is an Ulcer?

A sore or hole in lining of the stomach or duodenum (the first part of the small intestine).

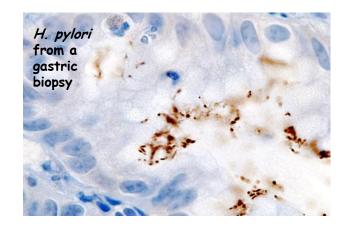
Not caused by stress or eating spicy food, but these factors can make ulcers worse.

#### Incidence:

Many people have *H. pylori* infection, but most infected people, do not develop ulcers.



*H. pylori* produces enzyme urease, which breaks down urea (normally secreted into the stomach) to carbon dioxide and ammonia. The ammonia is converted to ammonium that neutralizes gastric acid.. The ammonia produced is toxic to the epithelial cells and damages them.



Images: <u>Helicobacter pylori</u>, Yutaka Tsutsumi, M.D; <u>Histopathology of *H.pylori*</u> from a gastric biopsy, KGH

### Mannitol Salt (MSA)

Mannitol Salt media is both selective & differential.

1. Selective because it has a high NaCl (7.5%) concentration, and few types of bacteria can grow on this hypertonic medium.

Members of genus *Staphylococcus* are halophilic, and grow well on this media.

2. Differential because this medium contains a <u>pH</u>-sensitive dye to identify organisms that ferment mannitol (a sugaralcohol). Organic acids wastes mannitol fermenters produce change the medium from red to yellow.

MSA works well for identifying **pathogenic** staphylococci, such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, which will ferment mannitol.

Most non-pathogenic staphylococci (Staphylococcus epidermidis) will not ferment mannitol.

Q: Regardless of the color of the plate, what do know about bacteria found growing on Mannitol Salt?

Q: If there is growth, what additional info can then be obtained about bacteria growing based on color of the medium.



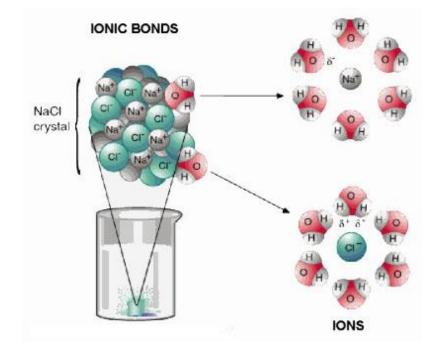


# Ions & Salts

 Compounds that dissociate in water and produce cations other than H+ and anions other than OH- are called salts.

- The most familiar salt is **sodium chloride**, the principal component of **common table salt**.
- Other examples of salts: Baking soda (NaHCO3) Epsom Salts (MgSO4)





# Salts: The Role of Buffers

Certain salts, called
 **buffers**, can
 combine with excess
 hydrogen (H+) or
 hydroxide (OH-) ions.



- Produce substances less acidic or alkaline.
- Example:

Antacids are buffers made of the salt calcium carbonate (CaCo3).

# Antacids & Food Poisoning

- Acidic environment of stomach kills many bacteria before they can cause disease.
- Researchers have found that antacids, in a simulated gastric environment, significantly increase survival rate of Vibrio vulnificus, leading cause of food-poisoning fatalities in US.





Three Main Types of Chemical Bonds:

1. Ionic

2. Covalent

3. Hydrogen

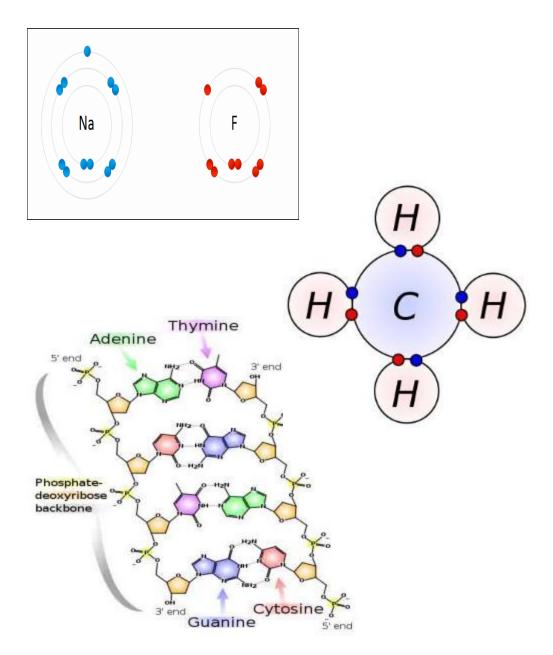
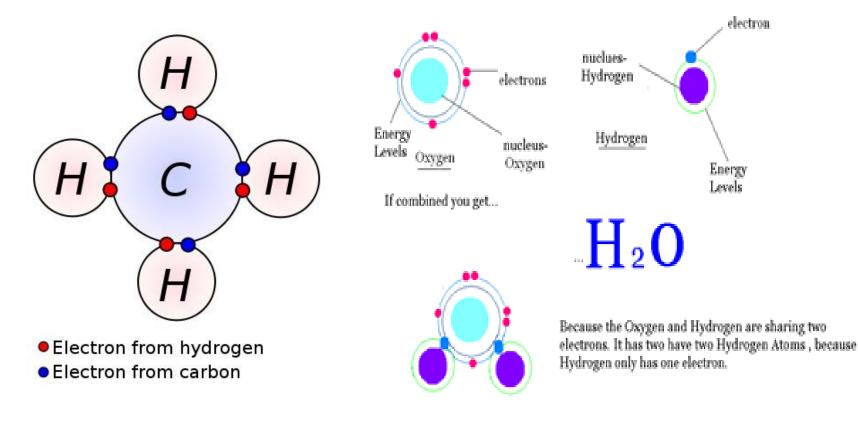


Image: Formation of ionic sodium fluoride, Wdcf; <u>Methane Covalent</u> <u>Bonds</u>, Dynablast, Wiki; <u>DNA Chemical Structure</u>, Madprime, Wiki

# **Covalent Bonds**

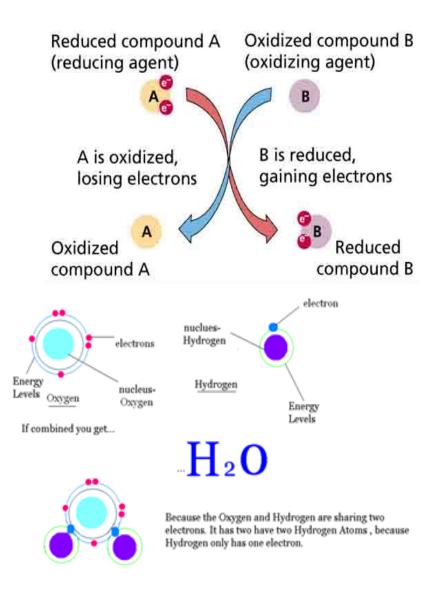
Covalent Bonds: Involve the sharing of a pair of electrons between two atoms.

Found mainly ... organic compounds



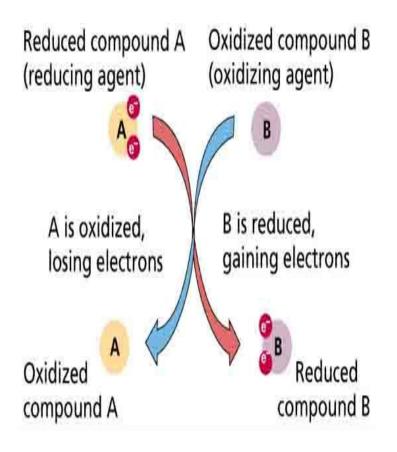
### **Oxidation - Reduction Reaction**

- Or Redox reaction = chemical reactions in which electrons are gained, lost (Q: What kind of bond?) Or shared (Q: What kind of bond?) in a chemical reaction.
- oxidation: *loss* of electrons by a molecule, atom or ion.
- reduction: gain of electrons by a molecule, atom or ion.



# Oil Rig





Three Main Types of Chemical Bonds:

1. Ionic

2. Covalent

3. Hydrogen

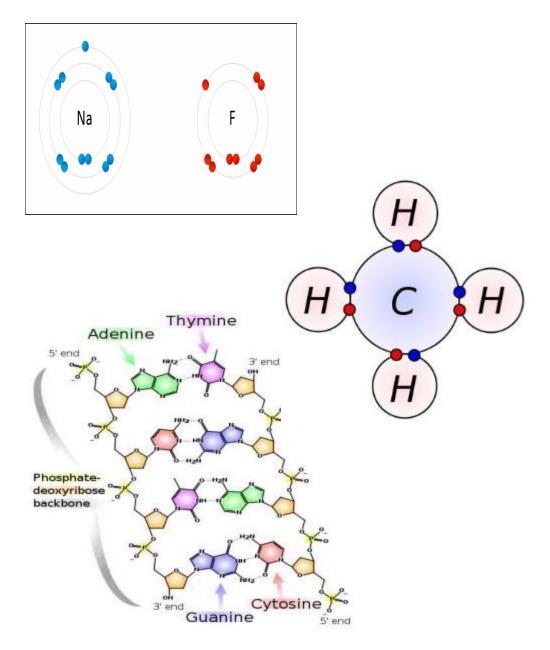


Image: Formation of ionic sodium fluoride, Wdcf; <u>Methane Covalent</u> <u>Bonds</u>, Dynablast, Wiki; <u>DNA Chemical Structure</u>, Madprime, Wiki

# Hydrogen Bonds

*Hydrogen Bonds:* When an atom of hydrogen is attracted to another electronegative atom in addition to the one it is covalently bonded to.

In some covalent bonds electrons are shared *unequally* by the hydrogen and the atom that the hydrogen is bound to. When the electrons in a covalent bond are not equally shared, the molecule is **polar**.

See the **polar**, **covalent bonds** of *each individual water molecule* below.

See the **hydrogen bond attractions** between the hydrogens and the oxygens of nearby, but separate water molecule below.

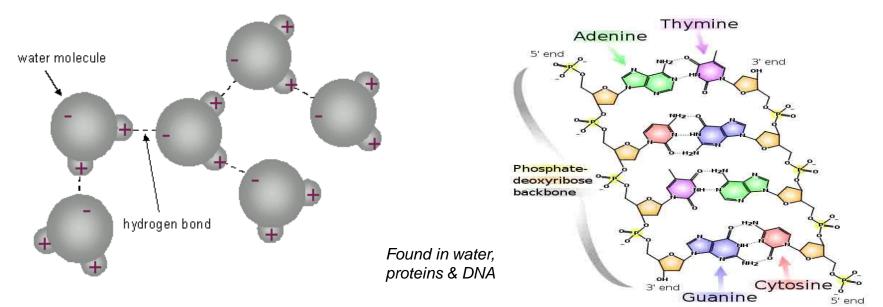
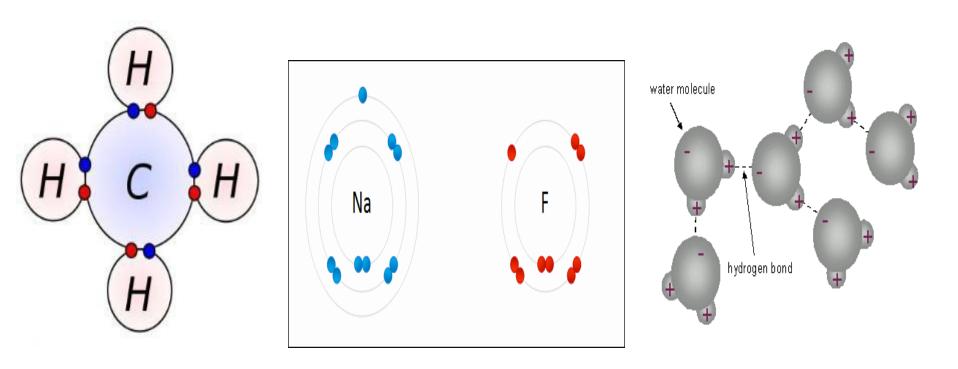


Image: <u>DNA Chemical Structure</u>, Madprime, Wiki; <u>Water</u> <u>Striders</u>, Markus Gayda, Wiki



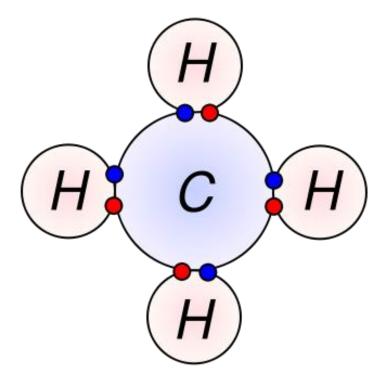


# Animated lessons on Chemical Bonding



# ? Inorganic vs Organic Molecules ?

- Inorganic Molecules > Molecules that *don't* have Carbon Hydrogen (С-н) bonds.
- The major <u>organic</u> <u>macromolecules</u> (big molecules with carbon-hydrogen bonds) found in living things are:
- 1. Carbohydrates
- 2. Proteins
- 3. Nucleic Acids
- 4. Lipids



Electron from hydrogenElectron from carbon

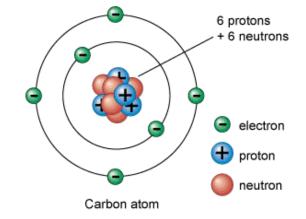
# Carbon Little Atom, Big Deal

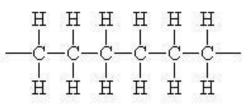
The chemical basis of life. Abundant in all known life forms.

Essential to complex organic macromolecules, because each carbon atom can form 4 bonds (usually involving hydrogen, oxygen and/or nitrogen).

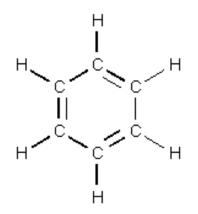
Able to form polymers (big organic molecules).

- The atoms can bond with each other to form long chains.
- Sometimes the ends of these chains join together to form a ring.
- Double bonds form when atoms share two electrons (two covalent bonds).









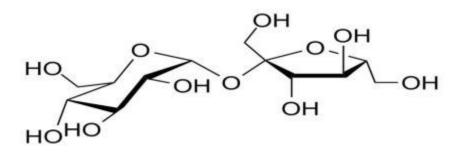
### Study Table of <u>Organic Macromolecules</u>

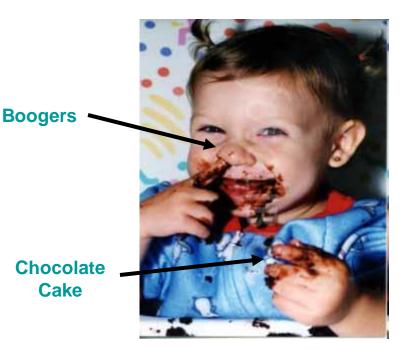
(We will fill this in as we go through the rest of the lecture.)

Macromolecule (polymer)	Made of what type of monomer?	Is there another name for this polymer?	Examples
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

# Organic Molecules - <u>Carbohydrates</u>

- "carbon hydrates"
- One carbon molecule to one water molecule (CH<sub>2</sub>O)n.
- saccharide is a synonym for <u>carbohydrate</u>.
- The prefixes on the word "saccharide" relates to the size of the molecule (mono-, di-, tri- poly-).





You probably know that chocolate cake is full of refined sugars...carbs. You may not know that boogers contain carbs as well. Boogers are dried-up mucus and dirty nose debris. Mucus is made mostly out of sugars and <u>protein</u>. Looks like this little punkin is double dipping. Bon appetite!

# Organic Molecules - Carbohydrates

НΟ,,

HO

OH

ŌН

#### Monosaccharides

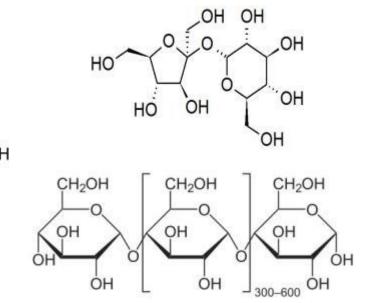
- single sugars (one molecule)
- simplest
- \* *glucose*, fructose

#### Disaccharides

- double sugars
- combination of two monosaccharides
- \* sucrose = glucose + fructose
- \* lactose = glucose + galactose

#### Polysaccharides

- are macromolecules; polymers composed of several sugars
- can be same monomer (many of same monosaccharide) or mixture of monomers
- energy carbs: glycogen (animals) starch (plants)
- structural carbs: *chitin* (animals), *cellulose* (plants)





# MacConkey's (MAC)

MacConkey's media is both selective & differential.

- 1. Selective because it *only grows <u>Gram-negative</u> bacteria*. Inhibits the growth of <u>Gram-positive</u> bacteria.
- 2. Differential because neutral red (pH-sensitive dye) and lactose (type of sugar) have been added to media.



- Bacteria that use **lactose** (a disacchride) for food, produce acidic metabolites that trigger the **pH** sensitive dye to turn pink.
- So lactose fermenting bacteria will grow in bright pink colonies while non-lactose fermenters will be colorless and clear.

**Q**: Regardless of the color of the plate, what do know about bacteria found growing on MacConkey's?

Q: If there is growth, what additional information is provided when the color of the bacteria is examined?

Enteric bacteria are the most frequently encountered bacteria isolated from many types of clinical specimens. They are most commonly lactose fermenters.



### Organic Molecules - Proteins

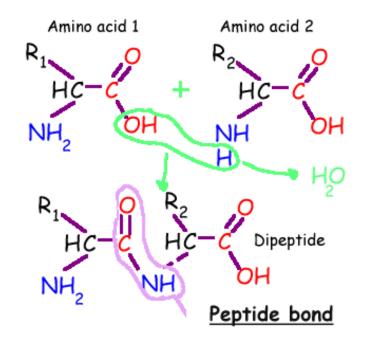
Proteins are macromolecules, polymers composed of monomers called...

Amino acids contain a:

- 1. base amino group  $(-NH_2)$
- 2. acidic carboxyl group ( -COOH)
- 3. hydrogen atom

...all attached to same carbon atom (the a - carbon...alpha carbon).

- Fourth bond attaches a-carbon to a side group (--R) that varies among different amino acids.
- Side groups important ... affects the way a <u>proteins</u> amino acids interact with one another, and how a protein interacts with other molecules.



**Essential amino acids:** Cannot be synthesized by the body. They must be ingested in the diet.

Arginine \* Histidine \* Methionine\* Threonine \* Valine \* Isoleucine \* Lysine \* Phenylalanine \* Tryptophan \* Leucine

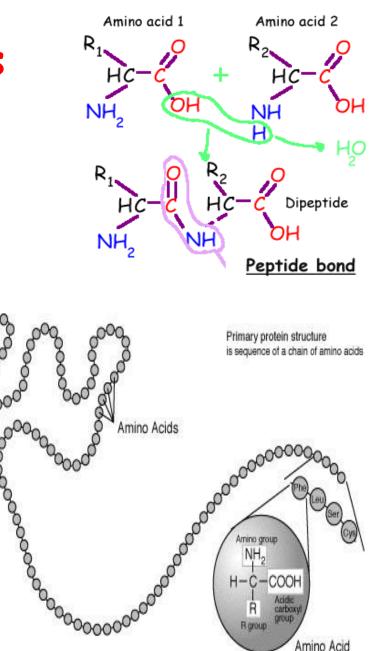
### Organic Molecules - Proteins

Peptide Bonds

Link amino acids together in chains, like the beads on a necklace.

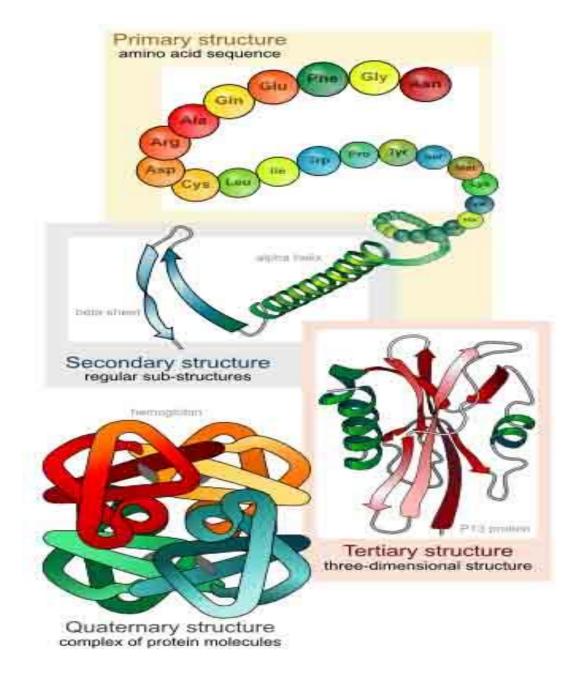
A dipeptide is 2 <u>amino acids</u> linked together.

A polypeptide, more than two.



#### Image: Protein Primary Structure, Wiki

# Protein Structure



# Organic Molecules - Proteins

Complex organic macromolecules fundamental to living cells.

Composed of one or more chains of amino acids.

<u>Proteins</u> perform many functions in cells, including:

1. Structural

• Components in cell walls, membranes, and within cells themselves.

#### 2. Enzymes

• Chemicals that speed up a chemical reaction.

• The catalysts in cells are called <u>enzymes</u>.

#### 3. Regulation

• Some regulate cell function by stimulating or hindering either the action of other proteins or the expression of genes.

#### 4. Transportation

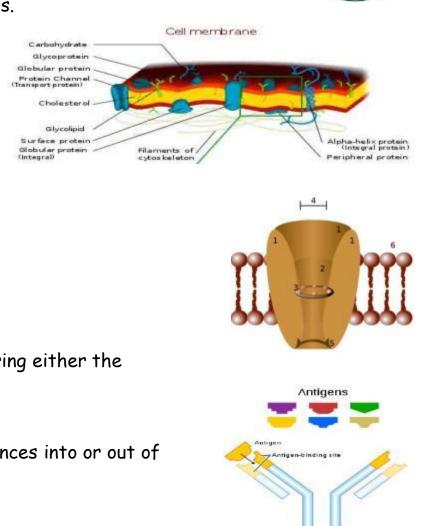
• Some act as channels and "pumps" that move substances into or out of cells.

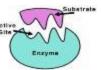
#### 5. Defense

• Antibodies = proteins that defend your body against microorganisms

• Some bacteria produce proteins (bacteriocins) that kill other bacteria.

Antibody

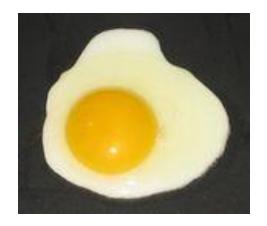






- Alteration of a <u>protein</u> shape through some form of external stress
- Example, by applying heat, acidic or alkaline environment
- Denatured protein can't carry out its cellular function .

### Q: How do you sabotage a protein?



Irreversible egg protein denaturation caused by high temperature (while cooking it).

### Organic Molecules - Nucleic Acids

<u>Nucleic acids</u> (both RNA and DNA) are macromolecules; polymers made up of monomers called **nucleotides**.

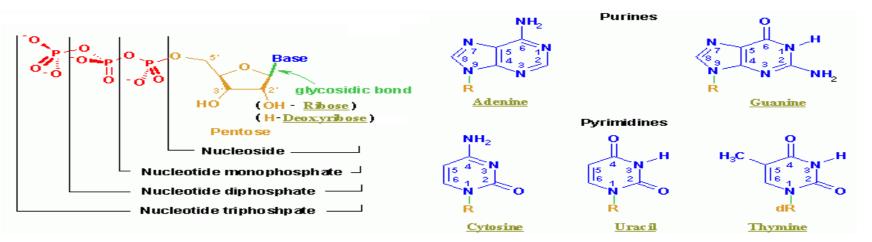
Nucleic acids deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and ribonucleic acid (RNA) = genetic material of cells.

Names derived from type of sugar contained within molecules = ribose

#### Nucleotides

Each monomer of nucleic acid is a nucleotide and consists of 3 portions:

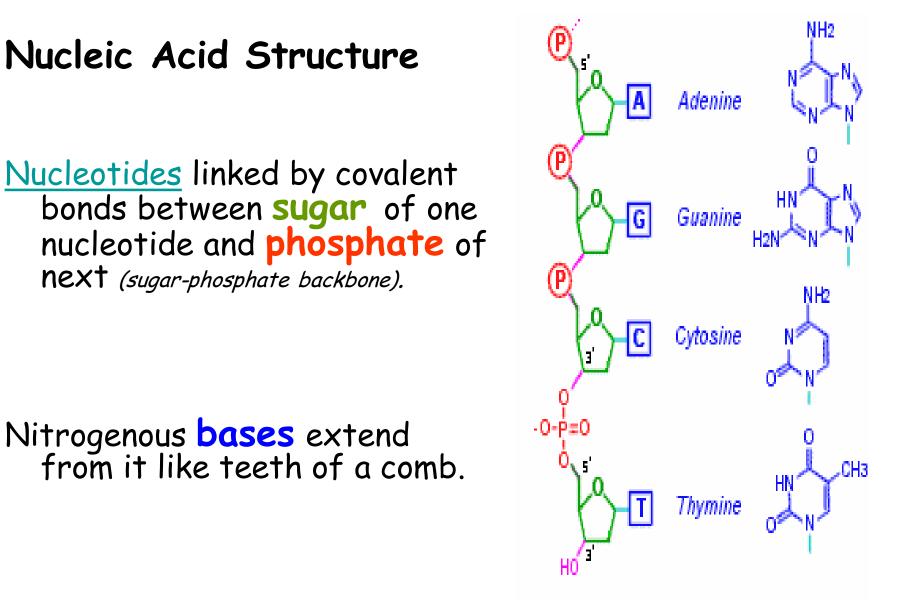
- a sugar
- one or more phosphate
- one of five cyclic nitrogenous bases
  - +adenine, guanine (double-ringed purines)
  - + cytosine, thiamine or uracil (single-ringed pyrimidines)



#### From the Virtual Microbiology Classroom on ScienceProfOnline.com

Image: Nucleotide Structure, Wikipedia

### Organic Molecules - Nucleic Acids



### Nucleic Acids - DNA

<u>DNA</u> is a double stranded molecule, analogous to a ladder.

The "ladder" =

 two deoxyribose-phosphate chains form the "side rails"

• base pairs, linked by hydrogen bonds, form the "rungs".

**Purine Bases** (double ring) Adenine & Guanine

**Pyrimidine Bases** (single ring) Cytosine & Thymine

Base Pairs (purine always pairs with pyrimidine):

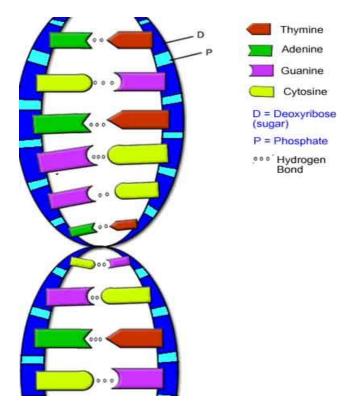
Adenine + Thymine Cytosine + Guanine

<< Q: How do I remember this?

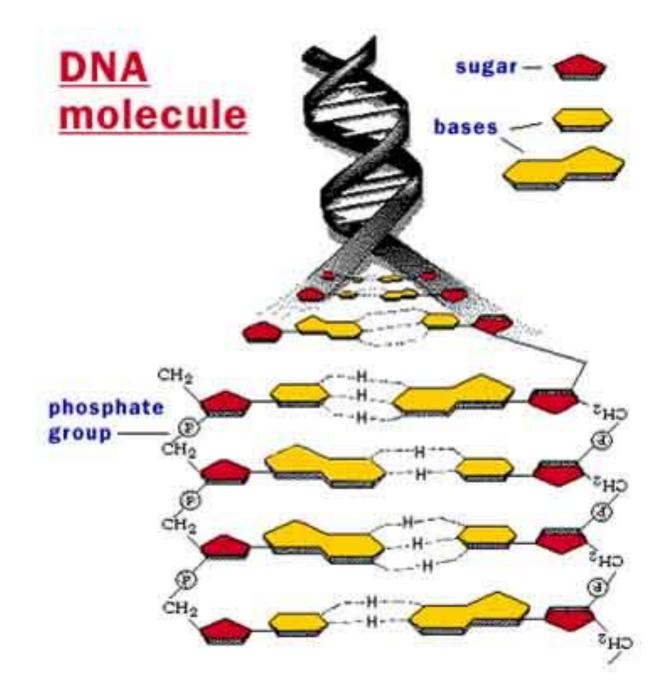
Hydrogen bonds attract the bases from one strand to the bases on the other strand and also twist the phosphate-sugar backbones into a helix.

From the Virtual Microbiology Classroom on ScienceProfOnline.com



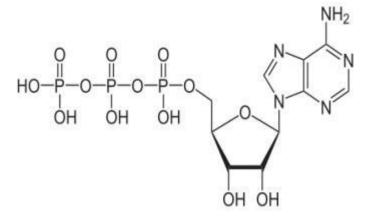


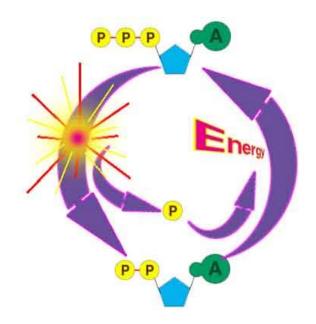
Images: <u>Model of DNA Molecule</u>, Field Museum, Chicago, T. Port <u>DNA</u>, Biology Corner Website



### ATP Production and Energy Storage

- Q: This molecule has a sugar, a base and three phosphate groups. What kind of monomer is it?
- <u>Adenosine 5'-triphosphate</u>
- Multifunctional "molecular currency" of intracellular energy transfer.
- Organisms release energy from nutrients; can be concentrated and stored in high-energy phosphate bonds of ATP.
- Transports chemical energy within cells for metabolism.
- Produced as energy source during photosynthesis and cellular respiration.
- Consumed by many enzymes and a multitude of cellular processes



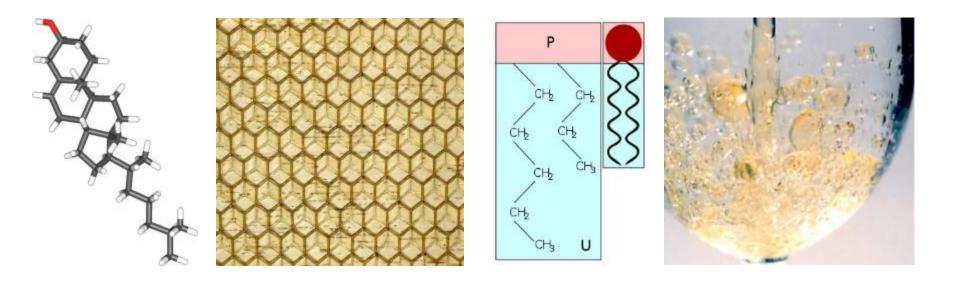


### Organic Molecules - Lipids (Fats, Phospholipids, Waxes & Steroids)

Hydrophobic macromolecules...insoluble in water.

Not attracted to water because ...

non-polar covalent bonds linking carbon & hydrogen aren't attracted to the polar bonds of water.



### Organic Molecules - Lipids (Fats, Phospholipids, Waxes & Steroids)

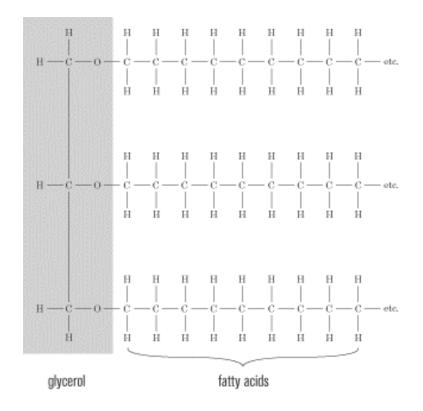


### Fats

Fats and oils are made from two kinds of molecules:

- glycerol (a type of alcohol)
- fatty acids

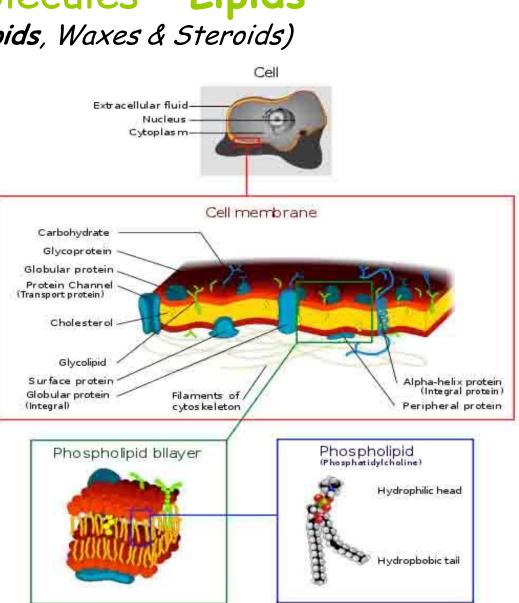
(triglycerides)

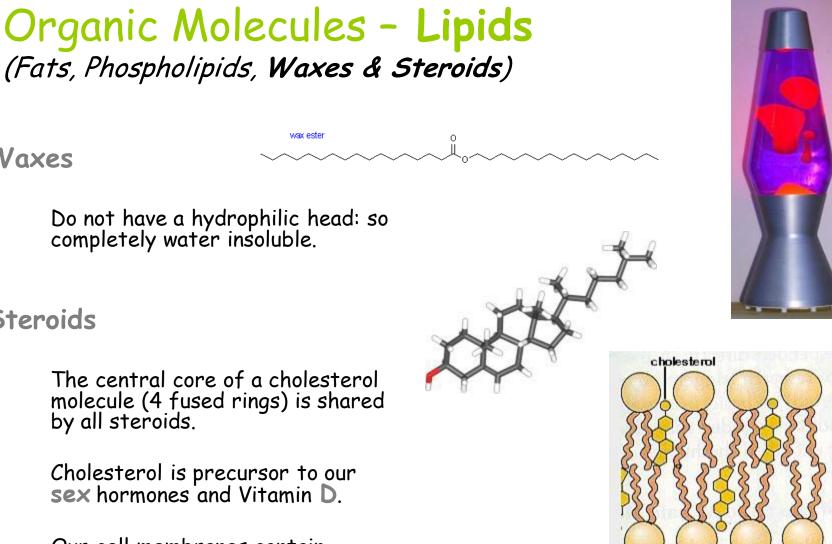


### Organic Molecules - Lipids (Fats, Phospholipids, Waxes & Steroids)

### Phospholipids

- Phospholipids are a major component of all cell membranes.
  - Most phospholipids contain a diglyceride as the tail, and a phosphate group for head.
    - Hydrocarbon tails are hydrophobic, but phosphate heads are hydrophilic.
    - So phospholipids are soluble in both water and oil.
    - Tails from both layers facing inward and the heads facing outward = **phospholipid bilayer**.





Our cell membranes contain cholesterol (in between the phospholipids) to help keep membrane "fluid" even when exposed to cooler temperatures.

Waxes

Steroids

### Meet the Microbes: Mycobacterium

GRAM-variable, obligate aerobe, bacillus-shaped

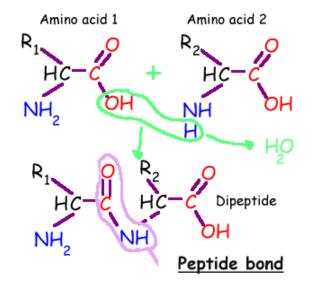
Q: Why are they considered "Gram variable"?

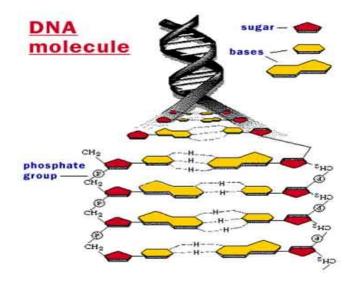
- *M. leprae* and *M. tuberculosis* have plagued mankind for ages.
- Thought that *M. tuberculosis* and *M. leprae* evolved from a soil bacterium that infected cows, then made jump to humans about the time of animal domestication, 10,000 years ago.
- *M. tuberculosis* doubles population every 18-24 hours,
- *M. leprae* doubles population about every 14 days.
- Q: What might be the impact of generation time on the course of the infectious diseases these microbes cause?

Images: TB Culture, Public Health Image Library (<u>PHIL</u>) #4428, Dr. George Kubica; 24 yo man from Norway, suffering from <u>leprosy</u>; Pierre Arents; <u>Acid fast stain</u> of *Mycobacteria smegmatis* & *Staph*, T. Port









Images: <u>Cholesterol</u>, Wiki; Chilesterol; Amino Acids & Peptide Bonds; <u>DNA Molecule</u>, National Science Foundation

# Confused?

Here are some links to fun resources that further explain **Inorganic Chemistry**:

- <u>Inorganic Chemistry Main Page</u> on the Virtual Cell Biology Classroom of <u>Science Prof Online</u>.
  - "She Blinded Me With Science" music video Thomas Dolby.
- "What Kind of Bonds Are These?" song and slide show by Mark Rosengarten.
- Chemical Bond Formation animated science tutorial.
- "<u>Meet the Elements</u>" music video by They Might Be Giants.
- <u>Redox Reactions</u> video lecture by Kahnacademy.
- <u>Chem4Kids</u> website by Rader.
- <u>Neutron Dance</u> ...a so-bad-its-good '80s music video by The Pointer Sisters.

(You must be in PPT slideshow view to click on links.)

Image: Daniel Radcliff by Joella Marano

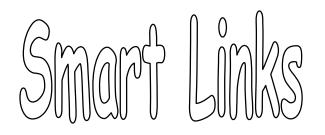




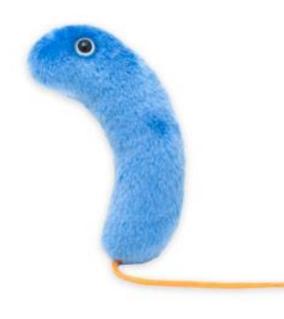
Here are some more links to fun resources that further explain **Organic Chemistry**:

- Organic Chemistry Main Page on the Virtual Cell Biology Classroom of <u>Science Prof Online</u>.
- <u>"What Kind of Bonds Are These?"</u> song and slide show by Mark Rosengarten
- <u>Macromolecules</u> interactive science tutorial.
- <u>DNA Structure Cell Biology Animation</u> from John Kyrk.
- <u>Build a DNA Molecule</u> from University of Utah.
- <u>"Chemistry"</u> a song by Kimya Dawson.
- <u>Redox Reactions</u> video lecture by Kahnacademy
- <u>"Sugar, Sugar"</u> song by The Archies.
- <u>Chem4Kids</u> website by Rader.
- "<u>Better Living Through Chemistry</u>" a song by Queens of the Stone Age.
- <u>"Chemistry"</u> a song by Rush.

(You must be in PPT slideshow view to click on links.)







### Are microbes intimidating you?

Do yourself a favor. Use the ...

# Virtual Microbiology Classroom (VMC)

The VMC is full of resources to help you succeed, including:



- practice test questions
- review questions
- study guides and learning objectives

You can access the VMC by going to the Science Prof Online website <u>www.ScienceProfOnline.com</u>

Images: <u>Cholera</u>, Vibrio cholerae, Giant Microbes; <u>Prokaryotic cell</u>, Mariana Ruiz