

Macromolecules

→ **PURPOSE:** To understand the structure of macromolecules by constructing paper models.

→ **PRELAB QUESTIONS (SEE REVERSE PAGE)**

INTRODUCTION: Macromolecules are also known as polymers because they are made of many smaller subunits. Each subunit on its own is known as a **monomer**. In order for the monomers to connect together a water molecule must be taken out, this reaction is known as a condensation reaction. When water is taken out, the shape of each subunit changes, which allows them to connect together. To break macromolecules apart, water is added and this reaction is known as hydrolysis.

MATERIALS:

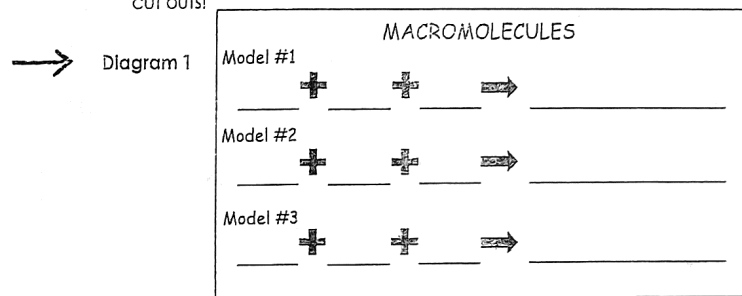
1. 1 sheet of construction paper - Lab Notebooks
2. 2 sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**
3. Scissors
4. Glue stick
5. Colored Pencils - see colors needed in procedure
6. Notes on macromolecules

PROCEDURE:

1. Answer the PRE-LAB QUESTIONS on the **Macromolecules Answer Sheet**.
2. Gather materials.
3. On both sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**, color **shape A** green.
4. On both sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**, color **shape B** blue.
5. On both sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**, color **shape C** purple.
6. On both sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**, color **shape D** red.
7. On both sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**, color **shape E** yellow.
8. On both sheets of **Monomer Cut-Outs**, color **shapes F, G and H** different patterns of your choice. Be creative! **Shapes F, G and H** should not be the same color as any of the other shapes on the paper.

PROCEDURE, continued:

9. On the piece of construction paper you will paste the cut outs into the format of a chemical reaction. Turn your construction paper horizontally and use a pen (or marker) to set up your paper like **Diagram 1** below. Don't forget to leave plenty of space for your cut outs!



10. Cut out all of the monomers on the **SOLID** lines.
11. Gather all cut outs of **shape A**. Try to join the pieces together.
What do you have to cut in order for the pieces to join together correctly?
12. Glue your cut outs onto your construction paper for model #1.
13. Label the pieces for model #1. What monomer does **shape A** represent?
Which macromolecule did you build?
14. Gather all cut outs of **shape B, C, D and E**. Try to join the pieces together.
What do you have to cut in order for the pieces to join together correctly?
15. Glue your cut outs onto your construction paper for model #2.
16. Label the pieces for model #1. What monomers do **shapes B, C, D and E** represent?
Which macromolecule did you build?
17. Gather all cut outs of **shape F, G and H**. Try to join the pieces together.
What do you have to cut in order for the pieces to join together correctly?
18. Glue your cut outs onto your construction paper for model #3.
19. Label the pieces for model #1. What monomer do **shapes F, G and H** represent?
Which macromolecule did you build?
20. Answer the conclusion questions.
21. When you are done, staple the **Macromolecules Answer Sheet** to your construction paper and turn it in.

Macromolecules Answer Sheet

→ PRE-LAB QUESTIONS:

- A. What does the prefix poly- mean?
- B. What does the prefix mono- mean?
- C. Why are macromolecules also known as polymers?
- D. What are the 4 types of macromolecules?

- E. If macromolecules are known as polymers, why is each subunit known as a monomer?

→ CONCLUSION QUESTIONS:

- F. In order to construct the model of each macromolecule, what did you have to cut out from the monomers in order to make them fit together?
- G. What type of chemical reaction were you modeling in this activity?
- H. What molecule is needed to break macromolecules apart?
- I. What is the reaction called that breaks the monomers apart called?

- J. For each of the following polymers write their monomers.

- Carbohydrates – _____
- Proteins – _____
- Lipids – _____
- Nucleic Acids – _____

- K. What monomer does shape A represent?

Which macromolecule did you build?

- L. What monomers do shapes B, C, D and E represent?

Which macromolecule did you build?

- M. What monomer do shapes F, G and H represent?

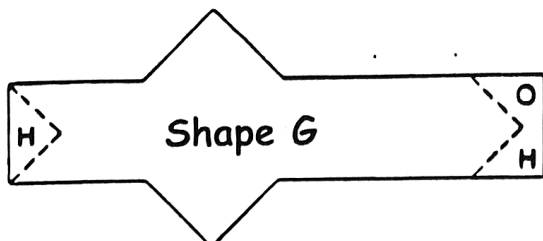
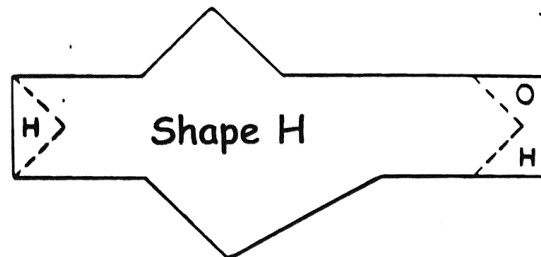
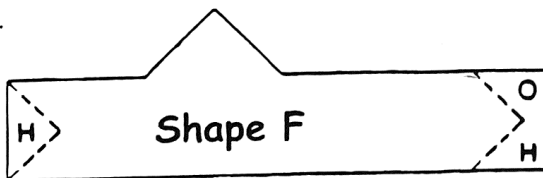
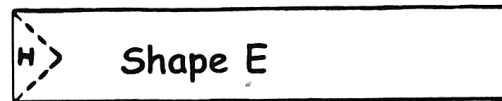
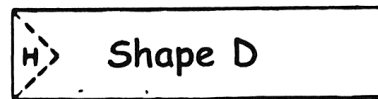
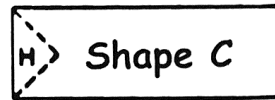
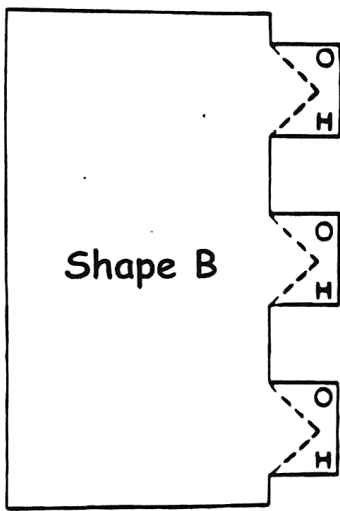
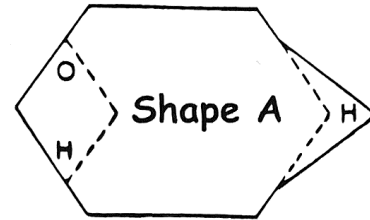
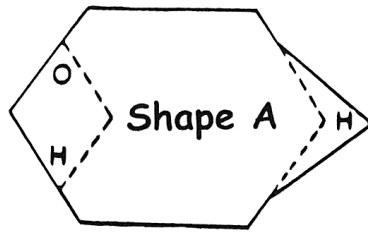
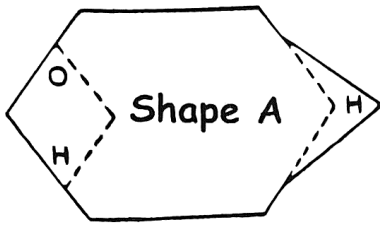
Which macromolecule did you build?

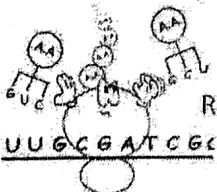

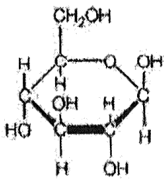

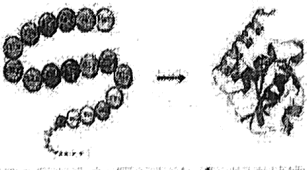
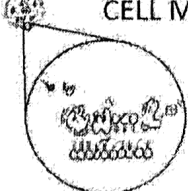
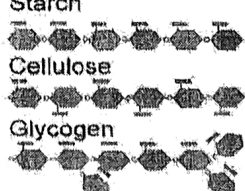

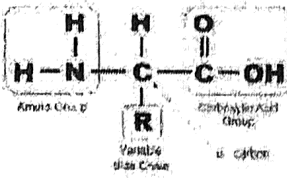
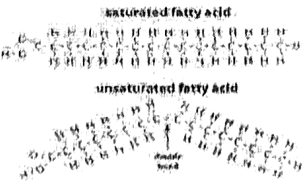


- N. What macromolecule did you not build?

What are its monomers?

- O. Using the words **monomer**, **polymer** and **macromolecule** explain what you built in the activity.

Monomer Cut Outs



MONOMER: AMINO ACID	MONOMER: NONE	MONOMER: MONOSACCAHARIDE	MONOMER: NUCLEOTIDE
FUNCTIONS: 1. REGULATES CELL CYCLE 2. SPEEDS UP CHEMICAL REACTIONS	FUNCTIONS: 1. LONG TERM ENERGY STORAGE 2. INSULATION	FUNCTIONS: 1. SHORT TERM ENERGY STORAGE 2. SUPPORT FOR PLANT CELL WALLS	FUNCTIONS: 1. CONTAINS THE GENETIC CODE 2. LITERALLY BUILDS PROTENS
FOOD SOURCES: MEAT FISH BEANS	FOOD SOURCES: OLIVE OIL BUTTER ANIMAL FAT	FOOD SOURCES: POTATOES PASTA RICE	FOOD SOURCES: SHRIMP BROCCOLI BEER
CHEMICAL COMPOSITION: S,O,N,C,H	CHEMICAL COMPOSITION: C,H,O	CHEMICAL COMPOSITION: C,H,O	CHEMICAL COMPOSITION: P,O,N,C,H
EXAMPLES: 1. ENZYMES 2. HEMOGLOBIN 3. ANTIBODIES	EXAMPLES: 1. CELL MEMBRANES 2. EAR WAX 3. BEE'S WAX	EXAMPLES: 1. CELLULOSE 2. GLYCOGEN 3. STARCH	EXAMPLES: 1. DNA 2. RNA
 RIBOSOME	 PHOSPHOLIPID	 GLUCOSE	 RNA DNA
 PEPTIDE CHAIN → PROTEIN	 CELL MEMBRANE	 Starch Cellulose Glycogen	 NUCLEOTIDE
 AMINO ACID	 saturated fatty acid unsaturated fatty acid	 GLYCOGEN/STARCH (RESERVE PLAYERS) GLUCOSE CHITIN	 RNA DNA

* Each macromolecule has 4 example squares, and squares for: *Minimim composition, function, food sources*

* Cut each of these & paste where its corresponding macromolecule is located.