

It may seem strange to study chemistry in a biology course. After all chemistry is its own science discipline and entire academic departments and many courses in college are dedicated to its study. However, the cell, the fundamental unit of life, can simplistically be described as a sack full of chemical reactions. To better understand how cells function we need to understand some fundamentals of chemistry.

The activities in this section of the course will examine the chemical properties of biologically important molecules, such as water, carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, acids and bases, and an important process, dehydration synthesis.