

*Unit 6. Solutions and Acids and Bases

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Unit Summary

Most everyday matter occurs as mixtures- combinations of two or more substances. Mixtures can be separated by physical means. Common separation techniques include filtration, distillation, and chromatography.

Mixtures can be either heterogeneous or homogeneous. Concentration can be expressed in terms of percent (by mass or volume) or in terms of moles (Molarity, molality, and mole fraction). Factors such as temperature, pressure, and polarity affect the formation of solutions. Colligative properties depend on the number of solute particles in a solution (freezing point depression and boiling point elevation)

Acids and bases have real life significance. The human body functions properly only when delicate acid base balances are maintained, crops grow best in soil with proper pH, substances released into the atmosphere as pollutants form acid rain and foods as well as many substances used in the home are acids and bases. This unit focuses on the structure, properties and reactions of acids and bases. Acids and bases are a specific class of molecules which needs to be distinguished by strong acids and bases versus weak acids and bases. Also can be described based on the degree of ionization of the molecules which can be used to calculate the pH, pOH, $[H^+]$ and $[OH^-]$. The pH scale shows the degree of ionization. Descriptions of acids and bases fall in three categories: Arrhenius, Brønsted-Lowery, and Lewis. Neutralization reactions are used in titrations to identify concentrations of unknown acids and bases.

Enduring Understandings

The properties of elements determine how atoms and molecules interact.
Forces attract, hold together, or repel matter.

Essential Questions

How does the amount of solute present affect the properties of a solution?

How is each type of concentration calculated?

What factors affect the solubility of a solute in a solvent? (temperature, pressure, nature of solute)

How does the amount of solute vary in a saturated, unsaturated, and supersaturated solution?

What are acids and bases?

What are some properties of acids and bases?

What is pH and how does it measure the concentration of acids and bases?

How do acids and bases react with each other?

Student Learning Objectives (PE, SEP, DCI, CCC) & Aligned Standards

Performance Expectations

HS-PS1-2 Construct and revise an explanation for the outcome of a simple chemical reaction based on the outermost electron states of atoms, trends in the periodic table, and knowledge of the patterns of chemical properties. [Clarification Statement: Examples of chemical reactions could include the reaction of sodium and chlorine, of carbon and oxygen, or of carbon and hydrogen.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to chemical reactions involving main group elements and combustion reactions.]

HS-PS1-3. Plan and conduct an investigation to gather evidence to compare the structure of substances at the bulk scale to infer the strength of electrical forces between particles. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on understanding the strengths of forces between particles, not on naming specific intermolecular forces (such as dipole-dipole). Examples of particles could include ions, atoms, molecules, and networked materials (such as graphite). Examples of bulk properties of substances could include the melting point and boiling point, vapor pressure, and surface tension.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include Raoult's law calculations of vapor pressure.]

HS-PS1-5. Apply scientific principles and evidence to provide an explanation about the effects of changing the temperature or concentration of the reacting particles on the rate at which a reaction occurs. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on student reasoning that focuses on the number and energy of collisions between molecules.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to simple reactions in which there are only two reactants; evidence from temperature, concentration, and rate data; and qualitative relationships between rate and temperature.]

HS-PS1-7. Use mathematical representations to support the claim that atoms, and therefore mass, are conserved during a chemical reaction. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on using mathematical ideas to communicate the proportional relationships between masses of atoms in the reactants and the products, and the translation of these relationships to the macroscopic scale using the mole as the conversion from the atomic to the macroscopic scale. Emphasis is on assessing students' use of mathematical thinking and not on memorization and rote application of problem solving techniques.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include complex chemical reactions.]

HS-ETS1-3 Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts.

Science and Engineering Practices

Planning and Carrying Out Investigations

Planning and carrying out investigations in 9-12 builds on K-8 experiences and progresses to include investigations that provide evidence for and test conceptual, mathematical, physical, and empirical models.

- Plan and conduct an investigation individually and collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence, and in the design: decide on types, how much, and accuracy of data needed to produce reliable measurements and consider limitations on the precision of the data (e.g., number of trials, cost, risk, time), and refine the design accordingly.

Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Analyzing data in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to introducing more detailed statistical analysis, the comparison of data sets for consistency, and the use of models to generate and analyze data.

- Consider limitations of data analysis (e.g., measurement error, sample selection) when analyzing and interpreting data.

Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking

Mathematical and computational thinking at the 9–12 level builds on K–8 and progresses to using algebraic thinking and analysis, a range of linear and nonlinear functions including trigonometric functions, exponentials and logarithms, and computational tools for statistical analysis to analyze, represent, and model data. Simple computational simulations are created and used based on mathematical models of basic assumptions.

- Use mathematical representations of phenomena to support claims.

Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to explanations and designs that are supported by multiple and independent student-generated sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles, and theories.

- Construct and revise an explanation based on valid and reliable evidence obtained from a variety of sources (including students' own investigations, models, theories, simulations, peer review) and the assumption that theories and laws that describe the natural world operate today as they did in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Cross Cutting Concepts

Patterns.

Observed patterns of forms and events guide organization and classification, and they prompt questions about relationships and the factors that influence them.

Cause and effect: Mechanism and explanation.

Events have causes, sometimes simple, sometimes multifaceted. A major activity of science is investigating and explaining causal relationships and the mechanisms by which they are mediated. Such mechanisms can then be tested across given contexts and used to predict and explain events in new contexts.

Energy and matter: Flows, cycles, and conservation.

Tracking fluxes of energy and matter into, out of, and within systems helps one understand the systems' possibilities and limitations.

Stability and change.

For natural and built systems alike, conditions of stability and determinants of rates of change or evolution of a

system are critical elements of study.

CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP2.1	Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive. They make connections between abstract concepts with real-world applications, and they make correct insights about when it is appropriate to apply the use of an academic skill in a workplace situation.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP5.1	Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP6.1	Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization.

Concepts & Sills

Mixtures:

compare and contrast homogeneous and heterogeneous mixtures.

explain the 3 techniques on how to separate a mixture (filtration, chromatography, and distillation).

understand that separating pure substances from mixtures is a physical change and may require energy.

understand the differences between mixtures and pure substances.

Solutions:

define and apply the terms solution, aqueous solution, solute, and solvent.

list and explain the factors that affect the rate of dissolving

distinguish between saturated, unsaturated, and supersaturated solutions.

understand how the temperature and pressure affect the solubility of the solute.

interpret a solubility curve.

Acids/Bases

Define acids and bases operationally and also conceptually (using modern theories.)

Distinguish between forms of acids and bases using their properties.

Determine whether a solution is acidic or basic using an indicator or pH meter.

Interpret pH in terms of powers of ten.

Be able to complete an acid base neutralization reaction given the identities of the reacting acids and bases.
explore the roles of acids and bases in the world

Resources

Practice Worksheets for each section

Separations of Mixtures: on-line simulations: http://www.fossweb.com/delegate/ssi-foss-ucm/Contribution%20Folders/FOSS/multimedia/Mixtures_and_Solutions/separatingmixtures/index.html or http://www.mheducation.ca/school/applets/bcscience7/mixtures/bcscience7_mixtures.swf

Explore Concentration (phet on-line simulation HTML5)
<https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/concentration>

Salts & Solubility (phet online simulation- Java) <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/legacy/soluble-salts>

Sugar and Salt Solutions (phet online simulation- Java) <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/legacy/sugar-and-salt-solutions>

Molarity (phet online simulation- HTML5) <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/molarity>

Lab: How much does it cost to de-ice our roads?

Acid Base Solutions (phet online simulation- HTML5) <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/acid-base-solutions>

pH scale (phet online simulation- HTML5) <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/ph-scale> or BASIC
<https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/ph-scale-basics>

Connecting with English Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics

English Language Arts/Literacy-

- Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations describing how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.
- Cite specific textual evidence of the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.
- Use empirical evidence to write an explanation for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.

Mathematics-

- Represent symbolically an explanation for how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate, and manipulate the representing symbols. Use symbols to make sense of quantities and relationships about how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate, symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols.
- Use a mathematical model to explain how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate. Identify important quantities in variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate and map their relationships using tools. Analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.
- Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multistep problems about how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas representing how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays representing how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate.
- Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate.
- Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities to describe how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate.
- Represent symbolically the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere, and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships in the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere.
- Use a mathematical model to describe the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere. Identify important quantities in the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere and map their relationships using tools. Analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions, reflecting on the results and improving the model if it has not served its purpose.
- Use units as a way to understand the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas representing the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays representing the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere.
- Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere.
- Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities showing the cycling of carbon among the hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere.
- Represent symbolically how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity, and manipulate the representing symbols. Make sense of quantities and relationships among availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.
- Use units as a way to understand the relationships among availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity. Choose and interpret units consistently in formulas to determine relationships among availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity. Choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays representing relationships among availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.
- Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling of relationships among

availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

- Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities showing relationships among availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate and their influence on human activity.

Modifications

Teacher Note: Teachers identify the modifications that they will use in the unit. The unneeded modifications can then be deleted from the list.

- Restructure lesson using UDL principals (http://www.cast.org/our-work/about-udl.html#.VXmoXcfD_UA)
- Structure lessons around questions that are authentic, relate to students' interests, social/family background and knowledge of their community.
- Provide students with multiple choices for how they can represent their understandings (e.g. multisensory techniques-auditory/visual aids; pictures, illustrations, graphs, charts, data tables, multimedia, modeling).
- Provide opportunities for students to connect with people of similar backgrounds (e.g. conversations via digital tool such as SKYPE, experts from the community helping with a project, journal articles, and biographies).
- Provide multiple grouping opportunities for students to share their ideas and to encourage work among various backgrounds and cultures (e.g. multiple representation and multimodal experiences).
- Engage students with a variety of Science and Engineering practices to provide students with multiple entry points and multiple ways to demonstrate their understandings.
- Use project-based science learning to connect science with observable phenomena.
- Structure the learning around explaining or solving a social or community-based issue.
- Provide ELL students with multiple literacy strategies.
- Collaborate with after-school programs or clubs to extend learning opportunities.

Research on Student Learning

Students of all ages may confuse the ozone layer with the greenhouse effect, and may have a tendency to imagine that all environmentally friendly actions help to solve all environmental problems (for example, that the use of unleaded petrol reduces the risk of global warming). Students have difficulty linking relevant elements of knowledge when explaining the greenhouse effect and may confuse the natural greenhouse effect

with the enhancement of that effect.

The idea of energy conservation seems counterintuitive to middle- and high-school students who hold on to the everyday use of the term energy, but teaching heat dissipation ideas at the same time as energy conservation ideas may help alleviate this difficulty. Even after instruction, however, students do not seem to appreciate that energy conservation is a useful way to explain phenomena. A key difficulty students have in understanding conservation appears to derive from not considering the appropriate system and environment. In addition, middle- and high-school students tend to use their conceptualizations of energy to interpret energy conservation ideas. For example, some students interpret the idea that "energy is not created or destroyed" to mean that energy is stored up in the system and can even be released again in its original form. Or, students may believe that no energy remains at the end of a process, but may say that "energy is not lost" because an effect was caused during the process (for example, a weight was lifted). Although teaching approaches which accommodate students' difficulties about energy appear to be more successful than traditional science instruction, the main deficiencies outlined above remain despite these approaches ([NSDL, 2015](#)).

Prior Learning

Physical science-

- Substances are made from different types of atoms, which combine with one another in various ways.
- Atoms form molecules that range in size from two to thousands of atoms.
- Each pure substance has characteristic physical and chemical properties (for any bulk quantity under given conditions) that can be used to identify it.
- Gases and liquids are made of molecules or inert atoms that are moving about relative to each other.
- In a liquid, the molecules are constantly in contact with others; in a gas, they are widely spaced except when they happen to collide. In a solid, atoms are closely spaced and may vibrate in position but do not change relative locations.
- Solids may be formed from molecules, or they may be extended structures with repeating subunits (e.g., crystals).
- The changes of state that occur with variations in temperature or pressure can be described and predicted using these models of matter.
- Motion energy is properly called kinetic energy; it is proportional to the mass of the moving object and grows with the square of its speed.
- A system of objects may also contain stored (potential) energy, depending on the objects' relative positions.
- Temperature is a measure of the average kinetic energy of particles of matter. The relationship between the temperature and the total energy of a system depends on the types, states, and amounts of matter present.
- When the motion energy of an object changes, there is inevitably some other change in energy at the same time.
- The amount of energy transfer needed to change the temperature of a matter sample by a given amount depends on the nature of the matter, the size of the sample, and the environment.
- Energy is spontaneously transferred out of hotter regions or objects and into colder ones.
- When light shines on an object, it is reflected, absorbed, or transmitted through the object, depending

on the object's material and the frequency (color) of the light.

- The path that light travels can be traced as straight lines, except at surfaces between different transparent materials (e.g., air and water, air and glass) where the light path bends.
- A wave model of light is useful for explaining brightness, color, and the frequency-dependent bending of light at a surface between media.
- However, because light can travel through space, it cannot be a matter wave, like sound or water waves.
- When the motion energy of an object changes, there is inevitably some other change in energy at the same time.
- The amount of energy transfer needed to change the temperature of a matter sample by a given amount depends on the nature of the matter, the size of the sample, and the environment.
- Energy is spontaneously transferred out of hotter regions or objects and into colder ones.

Life science-

- Plants, algae (including phytoplankton), and many microorganisms use the energy from light to make sugars (food) from carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and water through the process of photosynthesis, which also releases oxygen. These sugars can be used immediately or stored for growth or later use.
- Within individual organisms, food moves through a series of chemical reactions in which it is broken down and rearranged to form new molecules, to support growth or to release energy.
- Ecosystems have carrying capacities, which are limits to the numbers of organisms and populations they can support. These limits result from such factors as the availability of living and nonliving resources and from such challenges such as predation, competition, and disease. Organisms would have the capacity to produce populations of great size were it not for the fact that environments and resources are finite. This fundamental tension affects the abundance (number of individuals) of species in any given ecosystem.
- Photosynthesis and cellular respiration (including anaerobic processes) provide most of the energy for life processes.
- Plants or algae form the lowest level of the food web. At each link upward in a food web, only a small fraction of the matter consumed at the lower level is transferred upward to produce growth and release energy in cellular respiration at the higher level. Given this inefficiency, there are generally fewer organisms at higher levels of a food web. Some matter reacts to release energy for life functions, some matter is stored in newly made structures, and much is discarded. The chemical elements that make up the molecules of organisms pass through food webs and into and out of the atmosphere and soil, and they are combined and recombined in different ways. At each link in an ecosystem, matter and energy are conserved.
- Photosynthesis and cellular respiration are important components of the carbon cycle, in which carbon is exchanged among the biosphere, atmosphere, oceans, and geosphere through chemical, physical, geological, and biological processes.
- A complex set of interactions within an ecosystem can keep its numbers and types of organisms relatively constant over long periods of time under stable conditions. If a modest biological or physical disturbance to an ecosystem occurs, it may return to its more or less original status (i.e., the ecosystem is resilient), as opposed to becoming a very different ecosystem. Extreme fluctuations in conditions or the size of any population, however, can challenge the functioning of ecosystems in terms of resources and habitat availability.
- Moreover, anthropogenic changes (induced by human activity) in the environment—including habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, overexploitation, and climate change—can disrupt an ecosystem and threaten the survival of some species.
- Humans depend on the living world for the resources and other benefits provided by biodiversity. But human activity is also having adverse impacts on biodiversity through overpopulation,

overexploitation, habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and climate change. Thus sustaining biodiversity so that ecosystem functioning and productivity are maintained is essential to supporting and enhancing life on Earth. Sustaining biodiversity also aids humanity by preserving landscapes of recreational or inspirational value.

Earth and space science-

- Cyclical changes in the shape of Earth's orbit around the sun, together with changes in the tilt of the planet's axis of rotation, both occurring over hundreds of thousands of years, have altered the intensity and distribution of sunlight falling on the earth. These phenomena cause a cycle of ice ages and other gradual climate changes.
- Earth's systems, being dynamic and interacting, cause feedback effects that can increase or decrease the original changes.
- Evidence from deep probes and seismic waves, reconstructions of historical changes in Earth's surface and its magnetic field, and an understanding of physical and chemical processes lead to a model of Earth with a hot but solid inner core, a liquid outer core, and a solid mantle and crust. Motions of the mantle and its plates occur primarily through thermal convection, which involves the cycling of matter due to the outward flow of energy from Earth's interior and the gravitational movement of denser materials toward the interior.
- The geological record shows that changes to global and regional climate can be caused by interactions among changes in the sun's energy output or Earth's orbit, tectonic events, ocean circulation, volcanic activity, glaciers, vegetation, and human activities. These changes can occur on a variety of time scales from sudden (e.g., volcanic ash clouds) to intermediate (ice ages) to very long-term tectonic cycles.
- The radioactive decay of unstable isotopes continually generates new energy within Earth's crust and mantle, providing the primary source of the heat that drives mantle convection. Plate tectonics can be viewed as the surface expression of mantle convection.
- Plate tectonics is the unifying theory that explains the past and current movements of the rocks at Earth's surface and provides a framework for understanding its geologic history. Plate movements are responsible for most continental and ocean-floor features and for the distribution of most rocks and minerals within Earth's crust.
- The abundance of liquid water on Earth's surface and its unique combination of physical and chemical properties are central to the planet's dynamics. These properties include water's exceptional capacity to absorb, store, and release large amounts of energy, transmit sunlight, expand upon freezing, dissolve and transport materials, and lower the viscosities and melting points of rocks.
- The foundation for Earth's global climate systems is the electromagnetic radiation from the sun, as well as its reflection, absorption, storage, and redistribution among the atmosphere, ocean, and land systems, and this energy's re-radiation into space.
- Gradual atmospheric changes were due to plants and other organisms that captured carbon dioxide and released oxygen.
- Changes in the atmosphere due to human activity have increased carbon dioxide concentrations and thus affect climate.
- Resource availability has guided the development of human society.
- All forms of energy production and other resource extraction have associated economic, social, environmental, and geopolitical costs and risks as well as benefits. New technologies and social regulations can change the balance of these factors.
- Natural hazards and other geologic events have shaped the course of human history; [they] have significantly altered the sizes of human populations and have driven human migrations. The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them requires responsible management of natural resources.
- Scientists and engineers can make major contributions by developing technologies that produce less pollution and waste and that preclude ecosystem degradation.

- Though the magnitudes of human impacts are greater than they have ever been, so too are human abilities to model, predict, and manage current and future impacts.
- Through computer simulations and other studies, important discoveries are still being made about how the ocean, the atmosphere, and the biosphere interact and are modified in response to human activities.

Connections to Other Courses

Physical science-

- Each atom has a charged substructure consisting of a nucleus, which is made of protons and neutrons, surrounded by electrons.
- The periodic table orders elements horizontally by the number of protons in the atom's nucleus and places those elements with similar chemical properties in columns. The repeating patterns of this table reflect patterns of outer electron states.
- The structure and interactions of matter at the bulk scale are determined by electrical forces within and between atoms.
- A stable molecule has less energy than the same set of atoms separated; one must provide at least this energy in order to take the molecule apart.
- Chemical processes, their rates, and whether or not energy is stored or released can be understood in terms of the collisions of molecules and the rearrangements of atoms into new molecules, with consequent changes in the sum of all bond energies in the set of molecules that are matched by changes in kinetic energy.
- In many situations, a dynamic and condition-dependent balance between a reaction and the reverse reaction determines the numbers of all types of molecules present.
- The fact that atoms are conserved, together with knowledge of the chemical properties of the elements involved, can be used to describe and predict chemical reactions.
- Energy is a quantitative property of a system that depends on the motion and interactions of matter and radiation within that system. That there is a single quantity called energy is due to the fact that a system's total energy is conserved, even as, within the system, energy is continually transferred from one object to another and between its various possible forms.
- At the macroscopic scale, energy manifests itself in multiple ways, such as in motion, sound, light, and thermal energy.
- These relationships are better understood at the microscopic scale, at which all of the different manifestations of energy can be modeled as a combination of energy associated with the motion of particles and energy associated with the configuration (relative position of the particles). In some cases, the relative position energy can be thought of as stored in fields (which mediate interactions between particles). This last concept includes radiation, a phenomenon in which energy stored in fields moves across space.
- Conservation of energy means that the total change of energy in any system is always equal to the total energy transferred into or out of the system.
- Energy cannot be created or destroyed, but it can be transported from one place to another and transferred between systems.
- Mathematical expressions, which quantify how the stored energy in a system depends on its configuration (e.g., relative positions of charged particles, compression of a spring) and how kinetic energy depends on mass and speed, allow the concept of conservation of energy to be used to predict and describe system behavior.

- The availability of energy limits what can occur in any system.
- Uncontrolled systems always evolve toward more stable states—that is, toward more uniform energy distribution (e.g., water flows downhill, objects hotter than their surrounding environment cool down).
- Although energy cannot be destroyed, it can be converted to less useful forms—for example, to thermal energy in the surrounding environment.

Life science-

- The process of photosynthesis converts light energy to stored chemical energy by converting carbon dioxide plus water into sugars plus released oxygen.
- The sugar molecules thus formed contain carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen: Their hydrocarbon backbones are used to make amino acids and other carbon-based molecules that can be assembled into larger molecules (such as proteins or DNA), used for example to form new cells.
- As matter and energy flow through different organizational levels of living systems, chemical elements are recombined in different ways to form different products.
- As a result of these chemical reactions, energy is transferred from one system of interacting molecules to another. Cellular respiration is a chemical process in which the bonds of food molecules and oxygen molecules are broken and new compounds are formed that can transport energy to muscles. Cellular respiration also releases the energy needed to maintain body temperature despite ongoing energy transfer to the surrounding environment.
- Photosynthesis and cellular respiration (including anaerobic processes) provide most of the energy for life processes.
- Plants or algae form the lowest level of the food web. At each link upward in a food web, only a small fraction of the matter consumed at the lower level is transferred upward, to produce growth and release energy in cellular respiration at the higher level. Given this inefficiency, there are generally fewer organisms at higher levels of a food web. Some matter reacts to release energy for life functions, some matter is stored in newly made structures, and much is discarded. The chemical elements that make up the molecules of organisms pass through food webs and into and out of the atmosphere and soil, and they are combined and recombined in different ways. At each link in an ecosystem, matter and energy are conserved.
- Photosynthesis and cellular respiration are important components of the carbon cycle, in which carbon is exchanged among the biosphere, atmosphere, oceans, and geosphere through chemical, physical, geological, and biological processes.
- A complex set of interactions within an ecosystem can keep its numbers and types of organisms relatively constant over long periods of time under stable conditions. If a modest biological or physical disturbance to an ecosystem occurs, the ecosystem may return to its more or less original status (i.e., the ecosystem is resilient), as opposed to becoming a very different ecosystem. Extreme fluctuations in conditions or the size of any population, however, can challenge the functioning of ecosystems in terms of resources and habitat availability.
- Moreover, anthropogenic changes (induced by human activity) in the environment—including habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, overexploitation, and climate change—can disrupt an ecosystem and threaten the survival of some species.

Earth and space sciences-

- Continental rocks, which can be older than 4 billion years, are generally much older than the rocks of the ocean floor, which are less than 200 million years old.
- Although active geologic processes, such as plate tectonics and erosion, have destroyed or altered most of the very early rock record on Earth, other objects in the solar system, such as lunar rocks, asteroids, and meteorites, have changed little over billions of years. Studying these objects can provide information about Earth's formation and early history.

- The sustainability of human societies and the biodiversity that supports them requires responsible management of natural resources.
- Scientists and engineers can make major contributions by developing technologies that produce less pollution and waste and that preclude ecosystem degradation.
- Though the magnitudes of human impacts are greater than they have ever been, so too are human abilities to model, predict, and manage current and future impacts.
- Through computer simulations and other studies, important discoveries are still being made about how the ocean, the atmosphere, and the biosphere interact and are modified in response to human activities.

References

Adapted from the New Jersey NGSS Science Model Curriculum

Authors. (2015). National Science Digital Library. Produced by researchers from the University of Colorado at Boulder and [Digital Learning Sciences \(DLS\)](#) and is based on the maps developed by Project 2061 at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and published in the [Atlas of Science Literacy](#), Volumes 1 and 2 (2001 and 2007, AAAS Project 2061 and the National Science Teachers Association). Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License.

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Connections to NJSL

English Language Arts/Literacy

- RST.11-12.7** Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., video, multimedia) in order to address a question or solve a problem. (HS-ETS1-1),(HS-ETS1-3)
- RST.11-12.8** Evaluate the hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a science or technical text, verifying the corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information. (HS-ETS1-1),(HS-ETS1-3)
- RST.11-12.9** Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible. (HS-ETS1-1)

Mathematics

- MP.2** Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (HS-PS1-5),(HS-PS1-7),(HS-ETS1-1),(HS-ETS1-3),(HS-ETS1-4)
- MP.4** Model with mathematics. (HS-PS1-4), (HS-ETS1-1),(HS-ETS1-2),(HS-ETS1-3),(HS-ETS1-4)
- HSN-Q.A.1** Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays. (HS-PS1-5),(HS-PS1-7),(HS-PS1-8)
- HSN-Q.A.2** Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling. (HS-PS1-4),(HS-PS1-7)
- HSN-Q.A.3** Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities. (HS-PS1-5),(HS-PS1-7)