

**C** Carbon

Atomic Number: 6  
Atomic Mass: 12.01

**H** Hydrogen

Atomic Number: 1  
Atomic Mass: 1.00797

# The Molecules of Life

■ Mrs. Kerstetter

■ Biology

**O** Oxygen

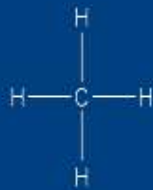
Atomic Number: 8  
Atomic Mass: 16

**N** Nitrogen

Atomic Number: 7  
Atomic Mass: 14.01

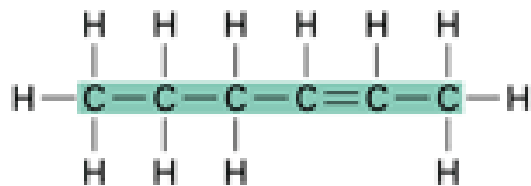
# 5.1 Carbon

- Other than water, most cell components are carbon-based
- They are called BIOMOLECULES
  - Made of a carbon backbone
  - Carbon can form 4 bonds
    - Important for attaching other atoms

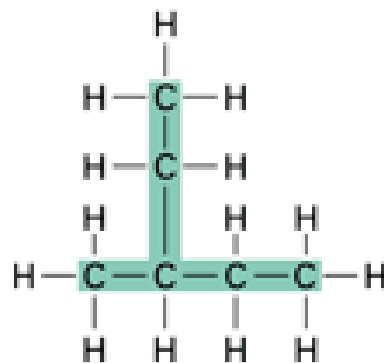


# Carbon backbones

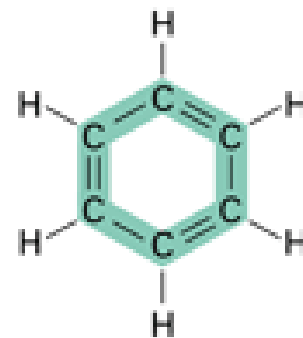
3 types of bonding:



**Straight chain**



**Branched chain**

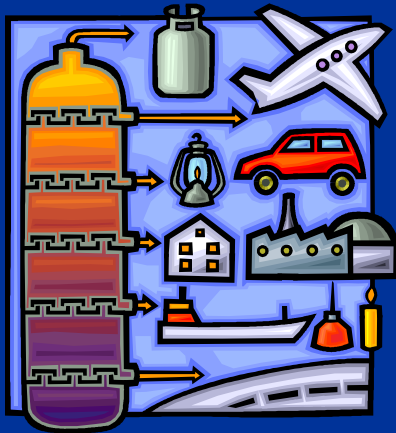


**Ring**

# Organic vs. Inorganic

## ■ Organic

- Contain CARBON
- One exception is CO, or carbon monoxide



## ■ Inorganic

- Do NOT contain carbon
- What are some inorganic molecules?



# Hydrocarbons

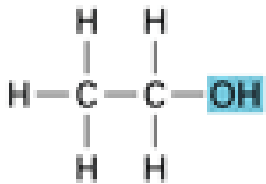
- = contain only carbon and hydrogen
- Many are important fuels
  - Methane
  - Butane
  - Propane
  - Energy-storing fat molecules



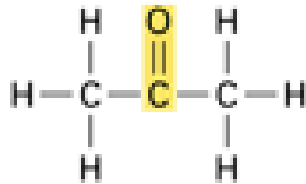
Two other atoms frequently found in organic molecules are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

# Functional Groups

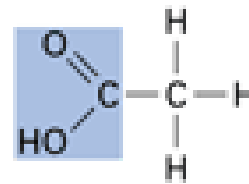
- = a group of atoms within a molecule that interacts in predictable ways with other molecules



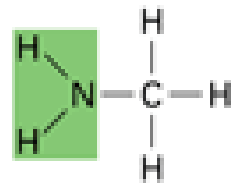
Hydroxyl group



Carbonyl group



Carboxyl group



Amino group

- $\text{-OH}$  groups are hydrophilic
  - What does that mean?

# Monomers and Polymers

## ■ Monomers

- Small, similar molecular units

## ■ Polymers

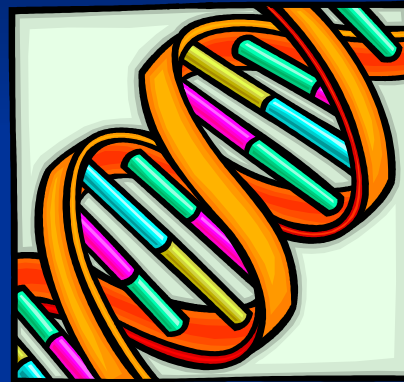
- Long chains of monomers
- Can be a straight chain or branched

## ■ Every cell has thousands of different polymers

- Vary from cell to cell within an organism

# Life's Large Molecules

- ⑩ Carbohydrates
- ⑩ Lipids
- ⑩ Proteins
- ⑩ Nucleic acids





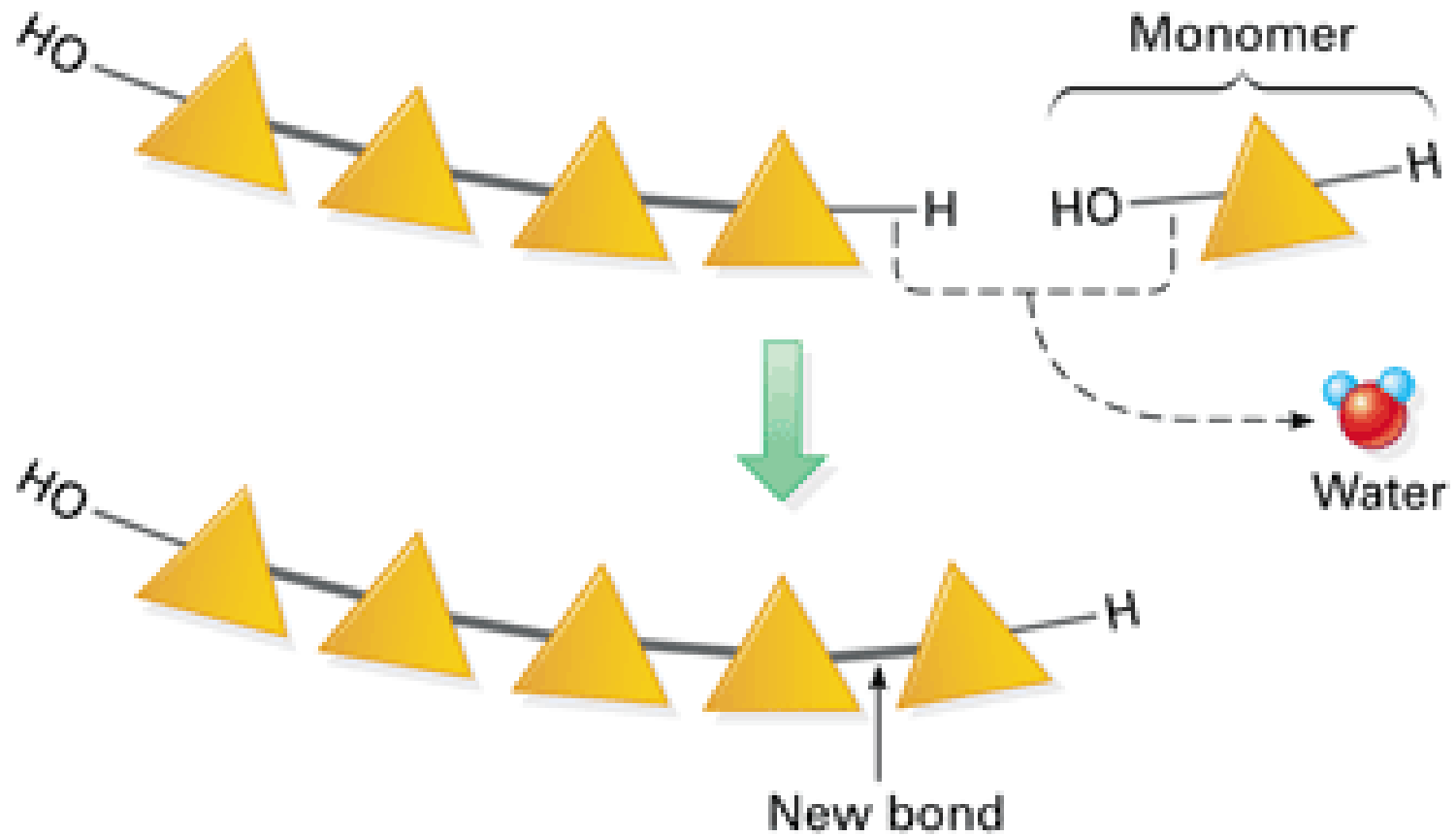
# Building Polymers

- Every time a monomer is added to a chain, a WATER molecule is release
  - This is called a \_\_\_\_\_ reaction

# Building Polymers

- Every time a monomer is added to a chain, a WATER molecule is release
  - This is called a DEHYDRATION reaction

## Building a Polymer Chain



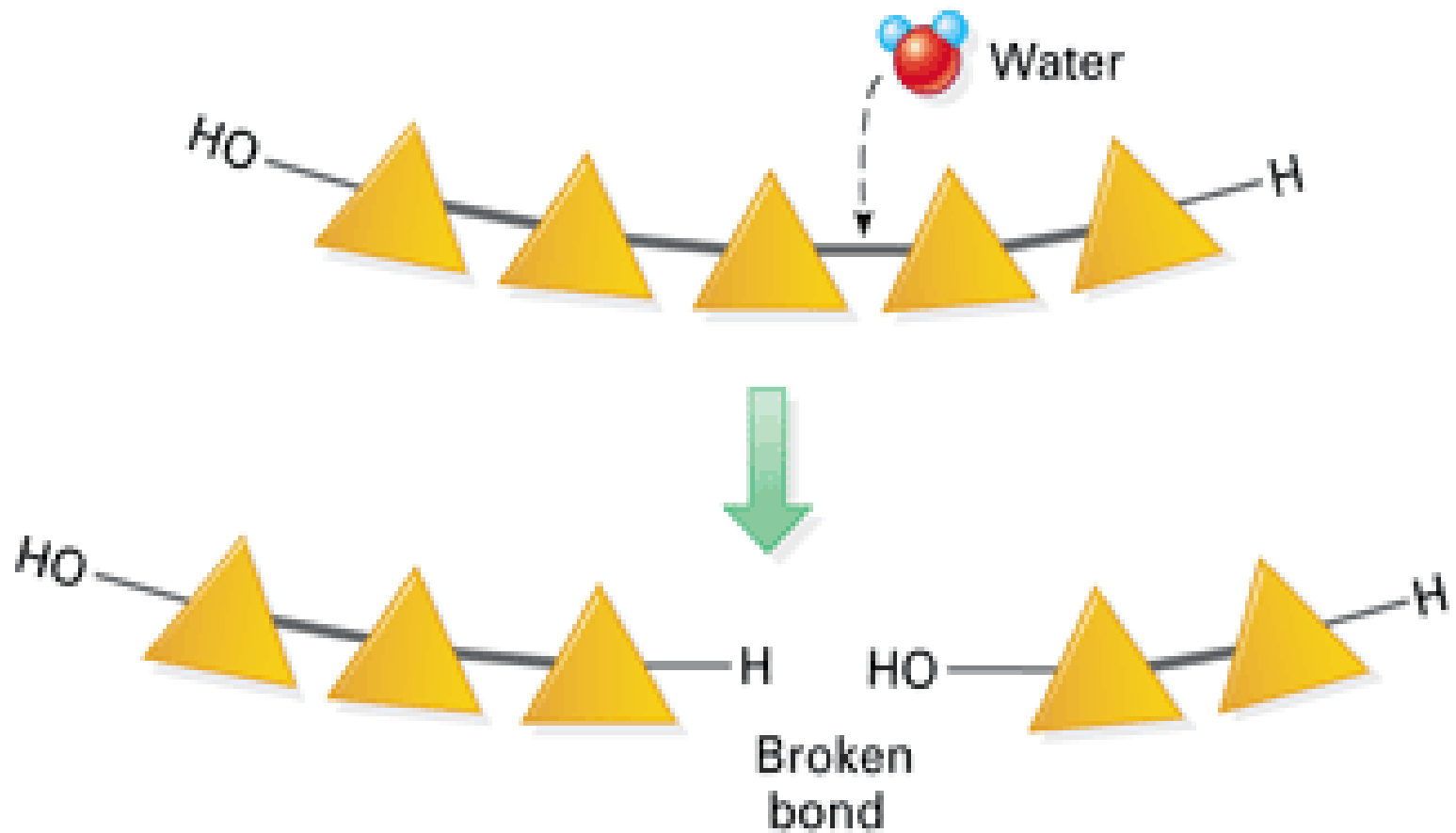
# Breaking Polymers

- We also have to break down long chains in order to make the monomers available to the cells
- This is done by adding water to break the bonds
  - This is called a \_\_\_\_\_ reaction

# Breaking Polymers

- We also have to break down long chains in order to make the monomers available to the cells
- This is done by adding water to break the bonds
  - This is called a HYDROLYSIS reaction

## Breaking a Polymer Chain




# What you should be able do after instruction on Section 5.1:

- Identify carbon skeletons and functional groups on organic molecules
- Relate monomers and polymers
- Describe the process of building and breaking polymers

Use this information when studying for your test!

# 5.2 Carbohydrates

- =an organic cpd made up of sugar molecules
  - Used as an energy source
    - Can be stored for later use
    - Can be used within minutes
- 
- The bottom right portion of the slide features several thick, black, wavy lines that sweep across the frame, creating a dynamic, abstract graphic element.



# Sugars

- Contain C, H, and O in a specific ratio
- Ratio 1C:2H:1O
- Formula  $(\text{CH}_2\text{O})_n$
- Most sugar molecules in nature have a ring shape



# Monosaccharides

■ =simple sugars containing just one sugar unit

■ Examples

■ Glucose

■ Fructose

■ Galactose

■ Names of sugars end in \_\_\_\_\_

# Monosaccharides

■ =simple sugars containing just one sugar unit

■ Examples

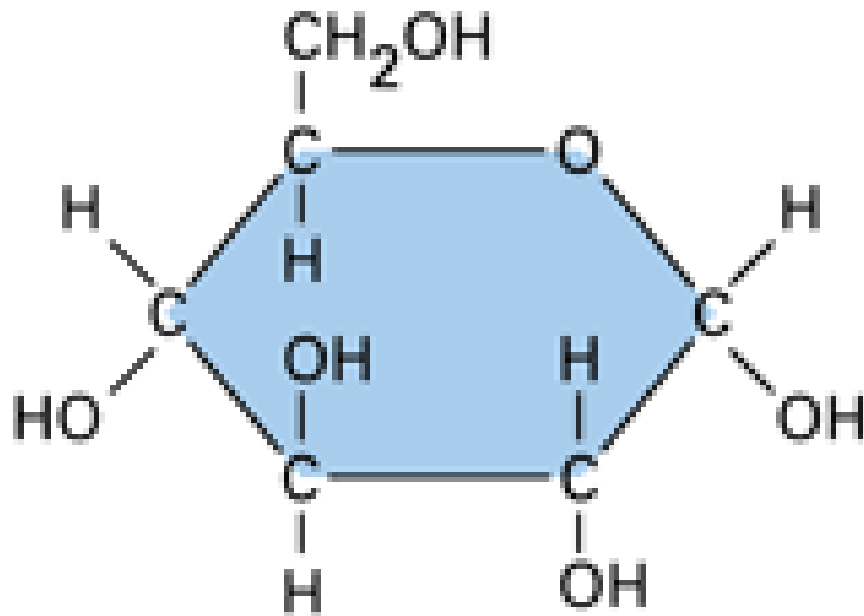
■ Glucose

■ Fructose

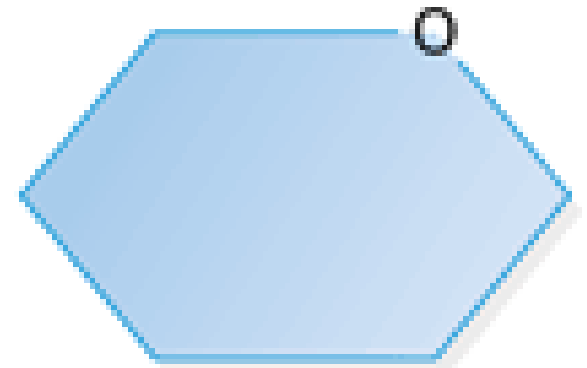
■ Galactose

■ Names of sugars end in *-ose*

# Glucose



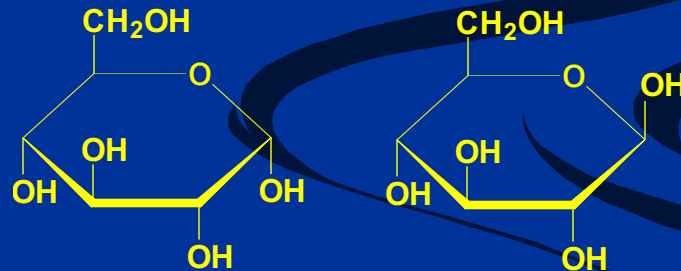
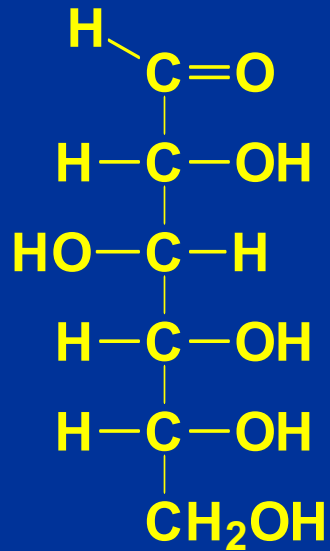
Molecular  
structure



Simplified  
representation

# Glucose

- Exists in both straight-chain and ring-shaped structures



**D-Glucose**

# Sugar Molecules

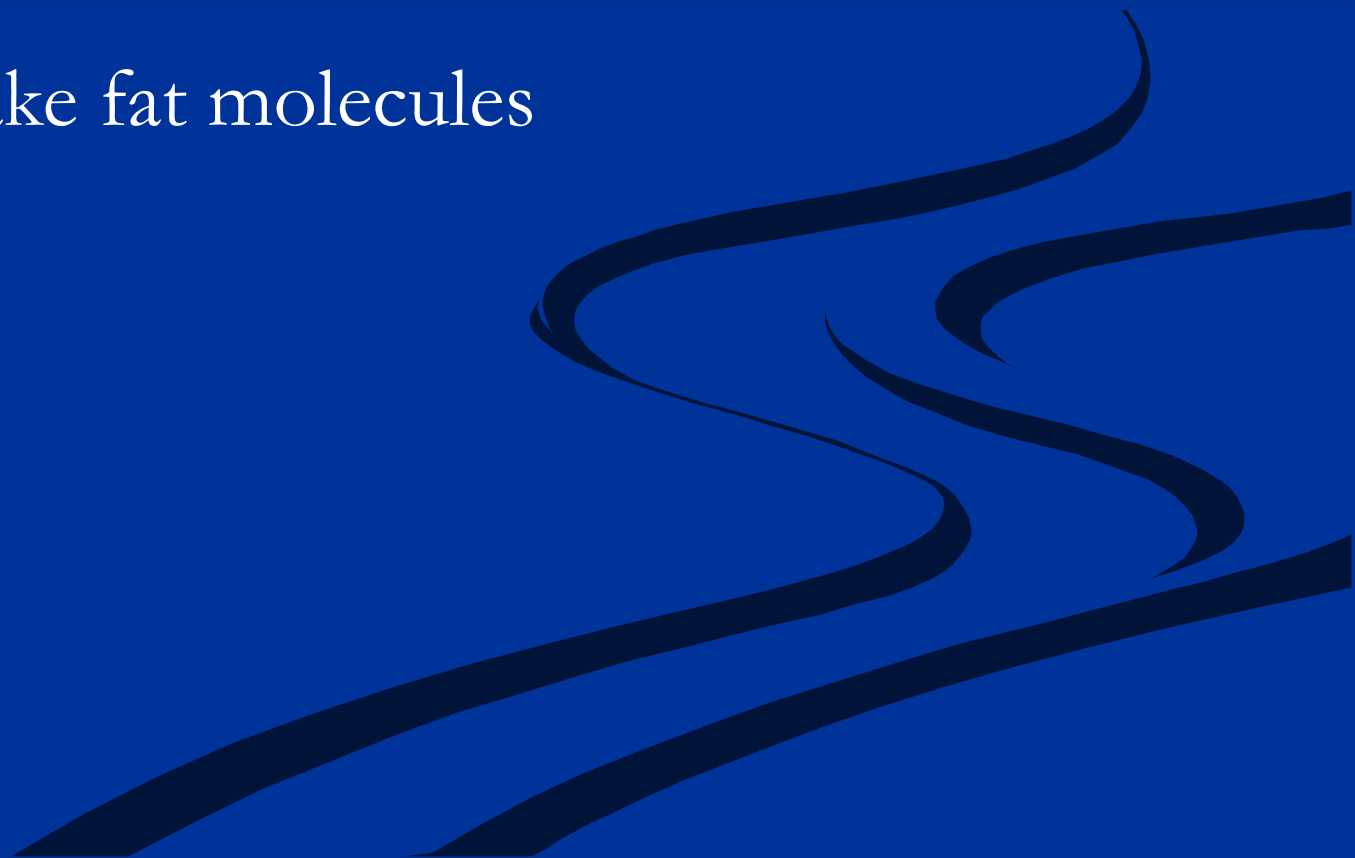
- Are the main fuel supply for cellular work
  - esp glucose!
- Cells break down sugar molecules and extract the stored E
- Cells use the carbon skeletons of monosaccharides as raw materials for other organic molecules

# What if sugars aren't used right away?


- Incorporated into larger carbohydrates

**OR**

- Used to make fat molecules



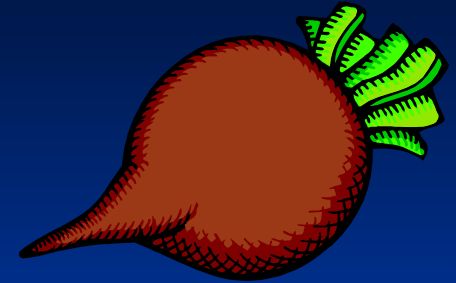
# Disaccharides

- Using a dehydration reaction, cells put together 2 monosaccharides to make one disaccharide
  - Most common is sucrose
  - Other examples:
    - Lactose
    - maltose
- 
- The bottom right portion of the slide features several thick, black, wavy lines that sweep across the frame, creating a dynamic, abstract graphic element.



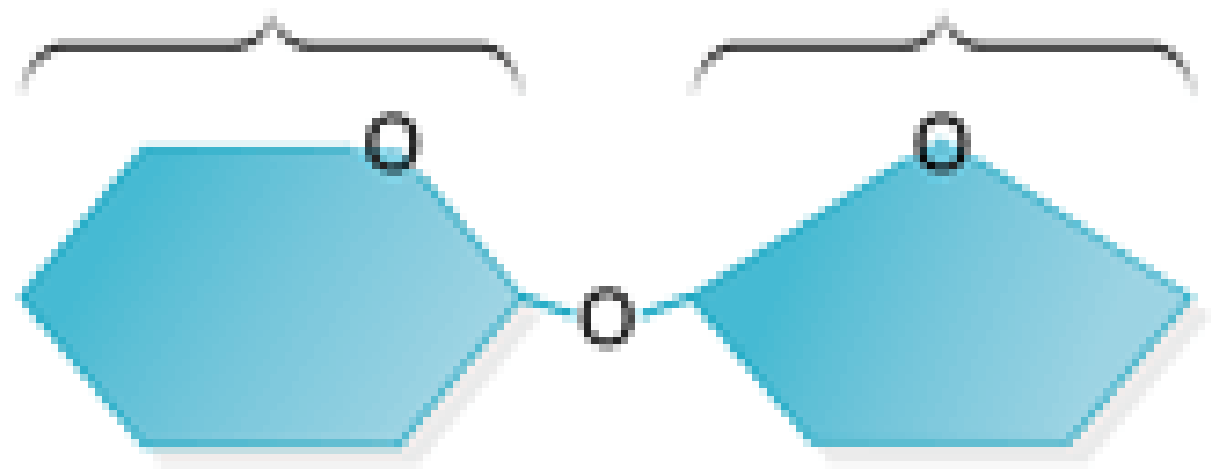
# Sucrose

- Glucose + Fructose
- Major carb in plant sap, so...
  - Nourishes plant
- Table sugar is extracted from stems of sugar cane or roots of sugar beets
- Can be broken down and used as soon as consumed
  - Or can store glucose



**Glucose  
monomer**

**Fructose  
monomer**



**Sucrose**

# Polysaccharides

- =long polymer chains made up of simple sugar monomers
  - Examples:
    - Starch
    - Glycogen
    - Cellulose
- 
- The bottom right portion of the slide features several thick, black, wavy lines that curve and flow across the blue background, serving as a decorative graphic element.

# Starch

- Found in plant cells
- Composed of glucose monomers
  - Branch
- Humans can break down starch unto useful energy
- Examples of foods rich in starch:
  - Potatoes
  - Rice
  - corn

# Glycogen

- In animal cells
- More highly branched than starch
- In humans
  - Stored as granules in liver and muscle cells
  - When body needs E, it breaks down glycogen, releasing glucose

# Cellulose



- Functions:
  - ⑩ A building material in plants
  - ⑩ Protect cells
  - ⑩ Stiffen plant so it doesn't fall over
- Made of glucose monomers
- Multiple cellulose chains form H bonds
  - Makes a cable-like fiber in the cell walls

# Cellulose

- Most animals cannot digest cellulose

  - Why?

- So...

  - Passes through body unchanged

- It is **NOT** a nutrient

- Cows and termites can digest cellulose...

  - How?



# Properties

- ALMOST all carbs are hydrophilic because of –OH groups
- Mono- and disaccharides dissolve easily in water
  - Cellulose and some starches do not dissolve in water (even though they are hydrophilic)
    - Why?
    - Why is this good for the textile industry?

