KEY CONCEPT

All living things are based on atoms and their interactions.



Like other carnivores, the Venus flytrap eats other animals to get nutrients that its needs to make molecules such as proteins and nucleic acids. Other chemical compounds made by the plant's cells enable the Venus flytrap to digest the animals that it eats.

- Living things consist of atoms of different elements.
 - An atom is the smallest basic unit of matter.
 - An **element** is one type of atom.

Hydrogen atom (H)



- An atom has a nucleus and electrons.
 - The **nucleus** has protons and neutrons.
 - Electrons are in energy levels outside nucleus.



- A **compound** is made of atoms of different elements bonded together.
 - water (H₂O)



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 - water (H₂O)
 - carbon dioxide (CO₂)



- A compound is made of atoms of different elements bonded together.
 - water (H₂O)
 - carbon dioxide (CO₂)
 - many other carbon-based compounds in living things

Ions form when atoms gain or lose electrons.

- An **ion** is an atom that has gained or lost one or more electrons.
 - positive ions
 - negative ions
- lonic bonds form between oppositely charged ions.



- Atoms share pairs of electrons in covalent bonds.
 - A covalent bond forms when atoms share a pair of electrons.
 - multiple covalent bonds
 - diatomic molecules



Carbon dioxide (CO₂)