

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW?

THE BASIS OF LIFE

<p>Vital functions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition function. Process in which living beings obtain the matter and the energy necessary for life. • Interaction function. Process in which living beings relate with their surrounding environment. • Reproduction function. Process by which new individual living beings are produced. 	
<p>Organic and inorganic biomolecules</p>	<p>Biomolecules are the building blocks of life. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic biomolecules. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carbohydrates – Lipids – Proteins – Nucleic Acids • Inorganic biomolecules. Water and mineral salts 	
<p>Cells</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cells are the structural and functional units of all living organisms. They have three basic structures: • Cell membrane • Cytoplasm • Nucleus. With genetic material <p>According to their genetic material, cells can be prokaryotic or eukaryotic. They can be plant or animal cells.</p>	
<p>Cellular nutrition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cellular metabolism includes two types of metabolic reactions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – catabolism – anabolism <p>Depending on the type of nutrients, cellular nutrition can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autotrophic. Characteristic of cells which make their own organic matter from inorganic matter using an energy source, mainly sunlight. • Heterotrophic. Characteristic of cells which feed on organic matter produced by other living beings. 	
<p>Cellular respiration</p>	<p>Describes the metabolic reactions to obtain energy from specific organic molecules.</p>	
<p>Cellular division</p>	<p>This is the process by which a cell divides into two cells, called daughter cells.</p>	