

# Ch3: Water

# Essential Knowledge

- 2.A.3 Organisms must exchange matter with the environment to grow, reproduce and maintain organization
  - a. Molecules and atoms from the environment are necessary to build new molecules
    - Essential elements moves from the environment to organisms where it is used to build:
      - Carbon: carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, or nucleic acids.
      - Nitrogen: proteins and nucleic acids
      - Phosphorous: nucleic acids and certain lipids
    - **Living systems depend on properties of water that result from its polarity and hydrogen bonding, such as: cohesion, adhesion, high specific heat capacity, universal solvent supports reactions, heat of vaporization**

# Emergent Properties

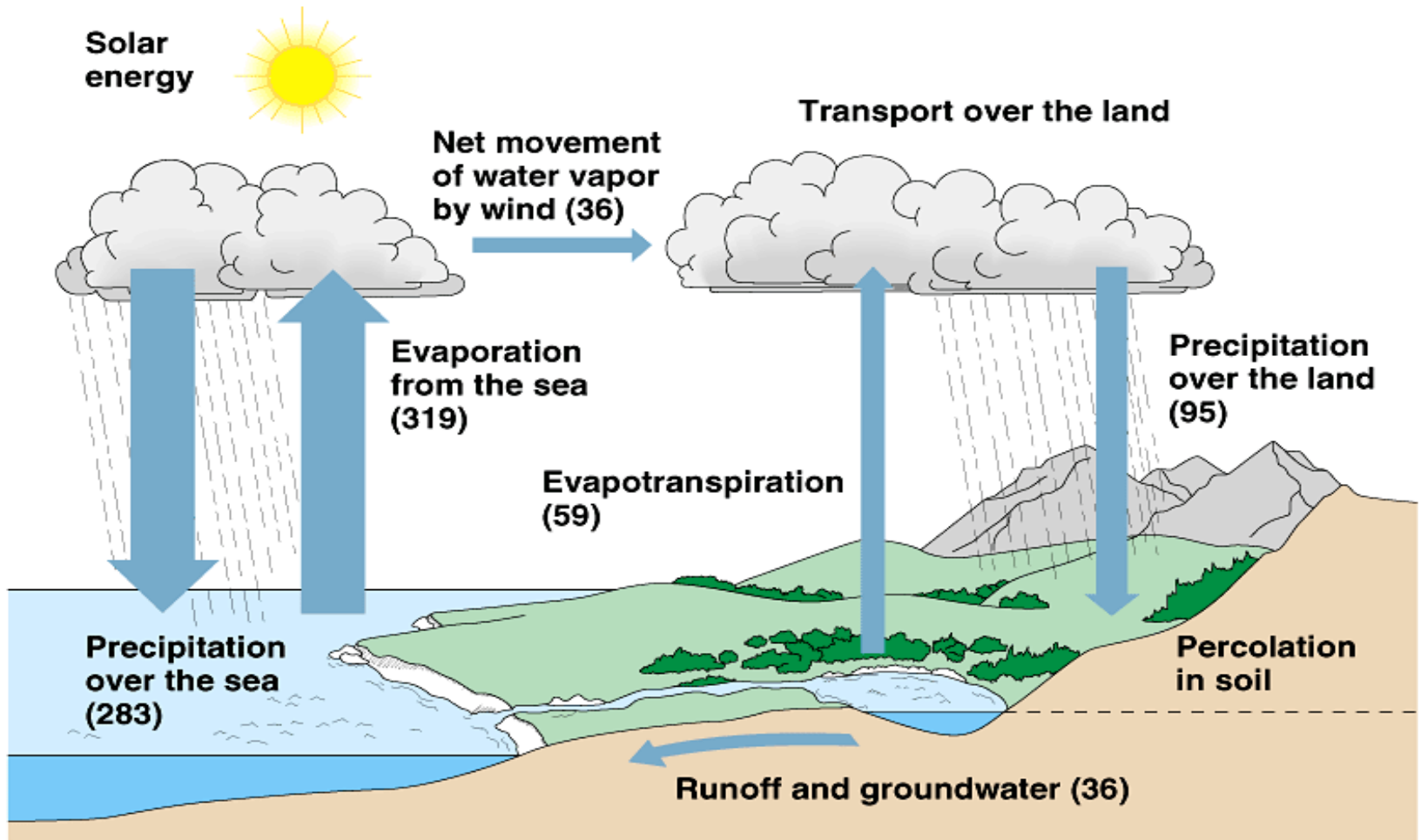
- The arrangement and interactions of parts creates novel properties that were not present at the preceding level of organization
  - Non-science example: Box of bicycle parts compared to a working bicycle
  - Science example: Na and Cl by themselves are toxic, but combined creates table salt and the arrangement of nucleotides in DNA combine to create heredity information that controls the cell

# Water – General Information

- Life on Earth started in water and evolved for 3 billion years before spreading on land
- Large bodies of water help moderate climate
  - $\frac{3}{4}$  earth's surface is water
    - Also present as ice and vapor
    - Only substance in all 3 states of matter
- Variations of water availability among habitats is an important factor in species distribution
- Since most cells are surrounded by water, osmoregulation is an important part of homeostasis in organisms
  - Cells are 70-95% water



# Water Cycle



# Properties of Water

## 1. Cohesion & Adhesion

- Surface tension

## 2. Moderation of Temperature

- Kinetic energy
- Heat
- Temperature
- Specific Heat
- Heat of vaporization
- Evaporative Cooling

## 3. Insulation

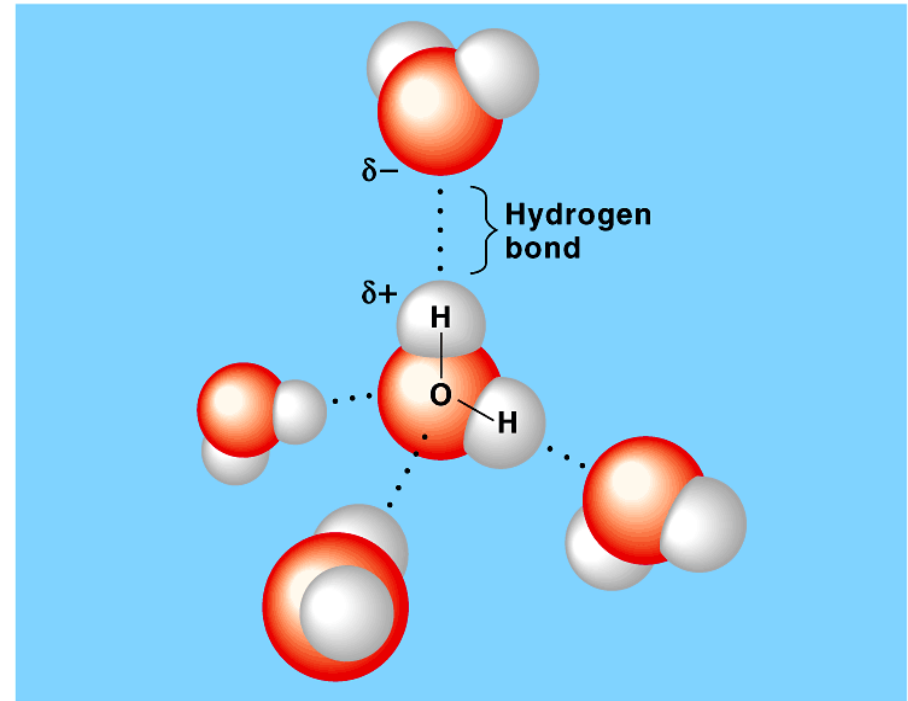
- Ice floats

## 4. Solvent

- Hydrophilic
- Hydrophobic

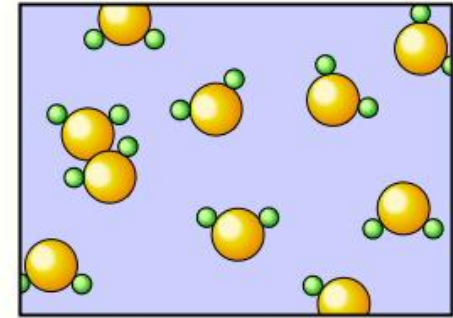
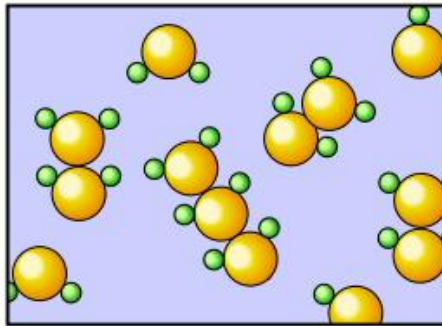
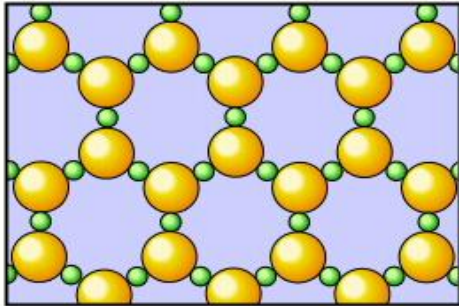
# Polarity of Water

- Water is a polar molecule because of the slight negative charge of oxygen and slight positive charge of hydrogen.
- Water molecules can form H-bonds with other water molecules



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# Three states of water



- **Solid** – crystal lattice structure –very little movement, ordered
- **Liquid** – molecules take shape of container – rapid movement, semi-ordered
- **Gas** – Random molecular structure, VERY rapid movement



# Cohesion & Adhesion

- **Cohesion**: H-bonds hold water together



- **Surface tension** is related to cohesion – reason insects can walk on water without sinking
  - Water behaves as an **invisible film** because of H-bonds

- **Adhesion**: clinging of one substance to another



- How water is moved from roots to the leaves of trees against gravity – water adheres to the cell walls of plants

# Temperature Moderation

- H<sub>2</sub>O moderates air temp by absorbing heat from warm air and releasing stored heat to cooler air
  - Related to hydrogen bonding in water
- Kinetic Energy = energy of motion – atoms and molecules in constant motion
  - Faster the movement, the greater the kinetic energy
- Heat = total amount of KINETIC ENERGY
- Temperature = intensity of heat due to average kinetic energy
  - Speed of molecules increases; then temp increases

# Specific Heat

- Water has a high specific heat
  - **Specific heat**: the amount of heat that must be absorbed or lost for 1g of that substance to change its temperature by 1 °C
  - Specific heat of water =  $1 \text{ cal/g/}^\circ\text{C}$
  - Can be thought of as a measure of **how well a substance RESISTS changing** its temperature when it absorbs or releases heat.
- **Heat must be absorbed in order to break the hydrogen bonds, and heat is released when bonds break**
  - **Heat is used to break the hydrogen bonds before water molecules can start moving to increase the temperature**

# Specific Heat

- **Why do coastal regions generally have milder climates? What does this have to do with specific heat?**
  - Water moderates temperature on earth so coastal regions don't have huge influx of temp changes
- **How does water's high specific heat relate to life on Earth?**
  - creates a favorable, stable environment for marine life
  - our bodies are made of water, so we are more resistant to changes in our own temp

# Evaporative Cooling

- **Vaporization/Evaporation**: transformation from liquid to gas
- **Heat of Vaporization**: amount of heat a liquid must absorb for 1g of it to be converted to a gas.
- **Evaporative Cooling**: as a liquid evaporates, the surface of the liquid that remains behind cools down
- Water has a high heat of vaporization
  - Which will “disappear” faster a drop of water or a drop of rubbing alcohol? Why?
  - Why does a heated liquid evaporate faster than a room temperature liquid?

# Evaporative Cooling

- Why is your skin still moist after a workout?
  - The “hottest” molecules evaporate as gas, but the liquid that remains behind cooled down; not enough speed to leave the surface
  - Organisms rely on heat of vaporization to remove heat.
  - Why do you feel hotter on a humid day?



# Water Insulates

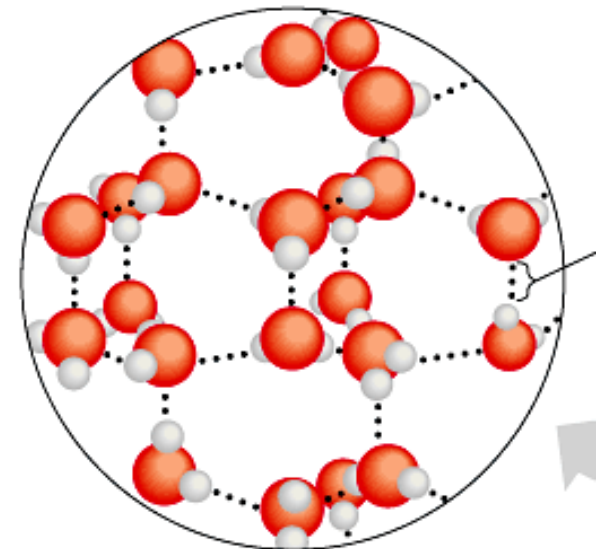
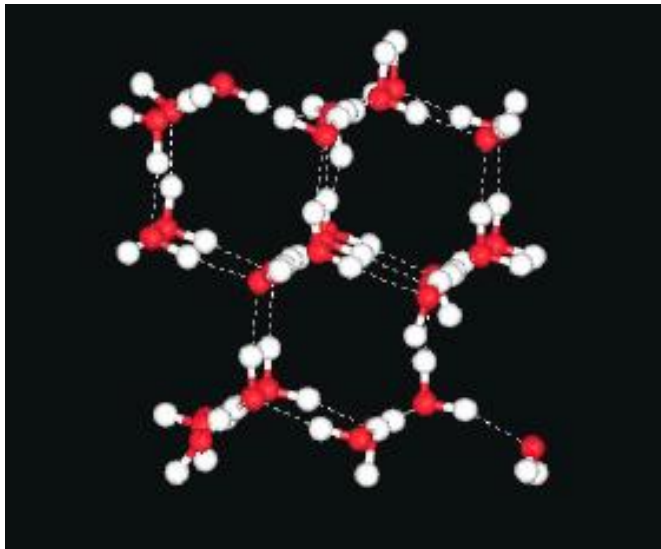


- Why is the phrase, “ice floats” important?
  - **If ice sank....**
    - Eventually all ponds, lakes and even oceans would freeze solid
    - During summer, only the top few inches would thaw
  - **Surface ice insulates water below**
    - Allowing life to survive the winter
  - **Seasonal turnovers of lakes**
    - Nutrient cycling



# Water Insulates

- Most substances are more dense when they are solid.
  - not water – ice floats!
- Ice forms loose crystal structure when hydrogen bonds push away from each other



**Ice**  
Hydrogen bonds are stable



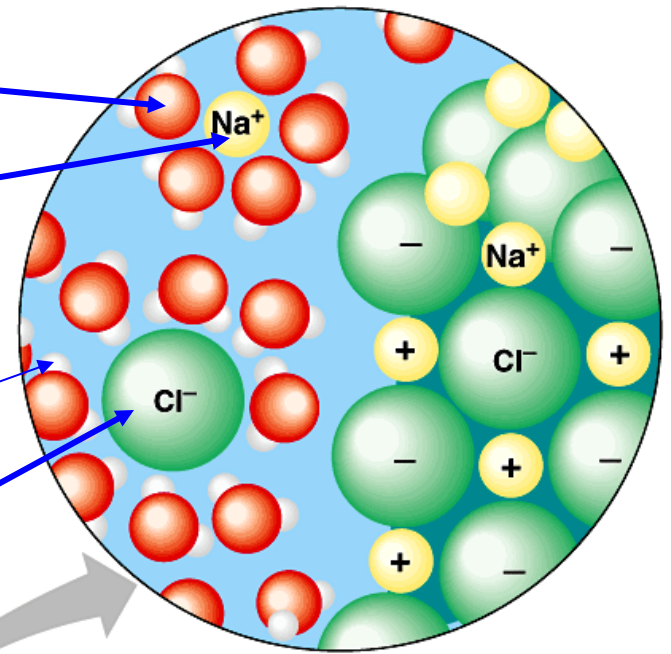
# Water as a Solvent

- Water can be used to do chemical reactions in the body
  - Dehydration or hydrolysis reactions
- Review:
  - Solution: liquid that is a completely homogeneous mixture of two or more substances.
  - Solvent: dissolving agent; ex: milk
  - Solute: substance that is dissolved; ex: chocolate
  - Aqueous solution: solution in which  $H_2O$  is solvent

# Water as a Solvent

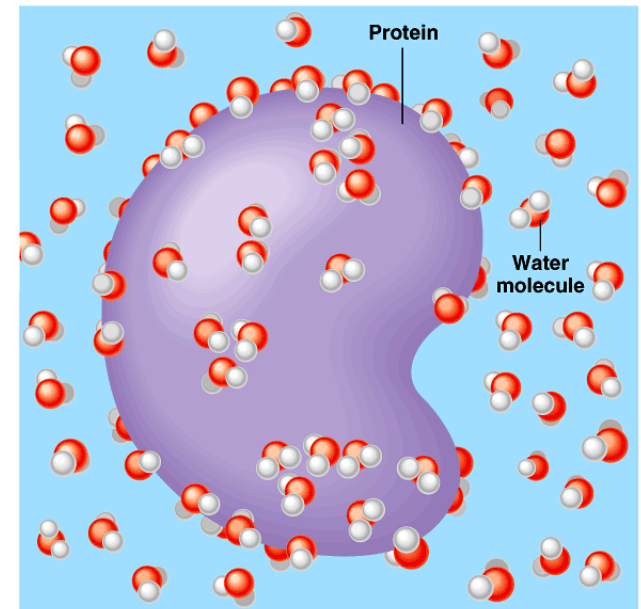
Negative oxygen regions of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  are attracted to  $\text{Na}^+$  cations

Positive hydrogen regions cling to  $\text{Cl}^-$  anions



# Hydrophilic

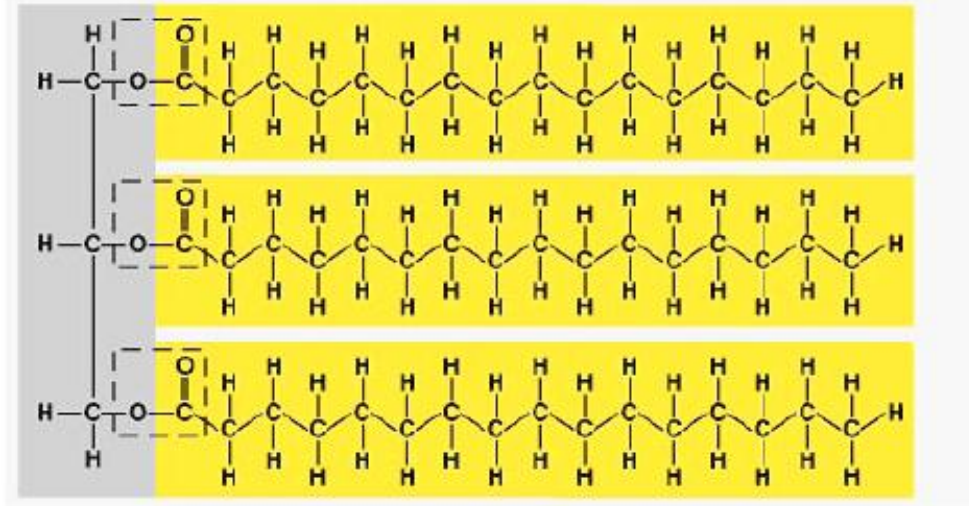
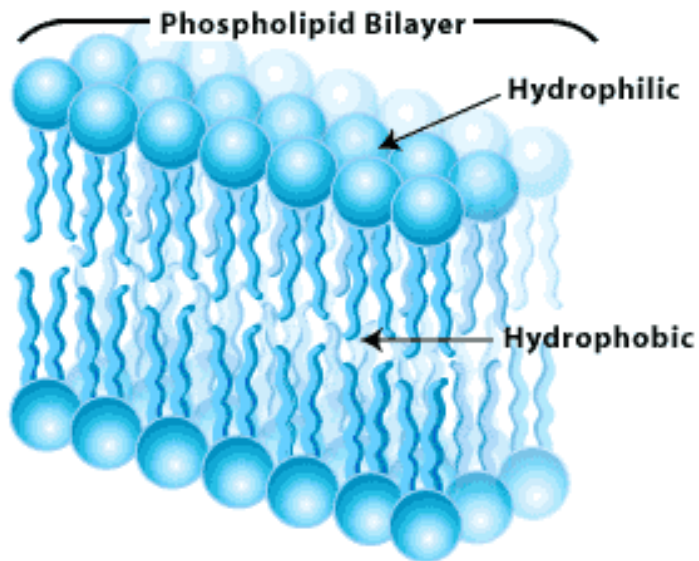
- Hydrophilic substances have a **HIGH AFFINITY** for water.
  - Ex: a cotton hand towel...easily adheres water because of the cellulose fibers of cotton



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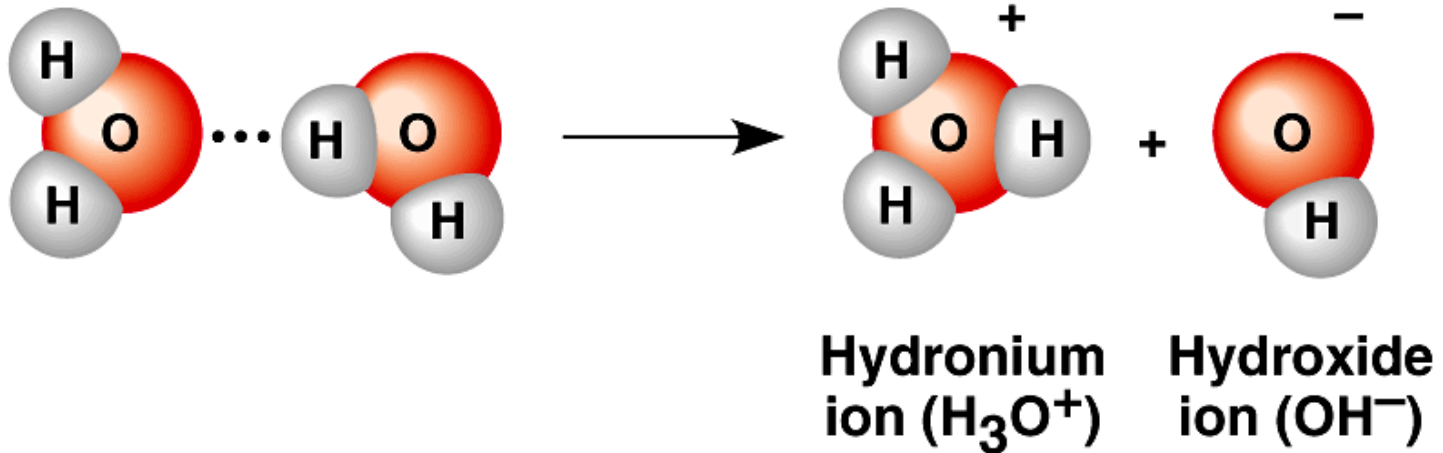
# Hydrophobic

- Hydrophobic substances are usually nonionic and nonpolar; **REPELS WATER**
- Ex: oil and fat



**Fat (triglycerol)**

# Dissociation of Water



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- Water breaks up into Hydronium (H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>) ions and Hydroxide (OH<sup>-</sup>) ions
  - One water molecule loses a proton (+) = (OH<sup>-</sup>)
  - One water molecule gains a proton (+) = (H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>)

# Why is this important?



- $[\text{H}^+]$  &  $[\text{OH}^-]$  are equal in pure water.  $10^{-7}$  M each – pure water pH 7
  - M = Molarity is the number of moles of solute per liter of solution
- Hydroxide and hydrogen (protons) ions are highly reactive
- Changes in concentration affect cell's proteins and other molecules
- $[\text{H}^+]$  &  $[\text{OH}^-]$  determine the pH of a solution

# pH General

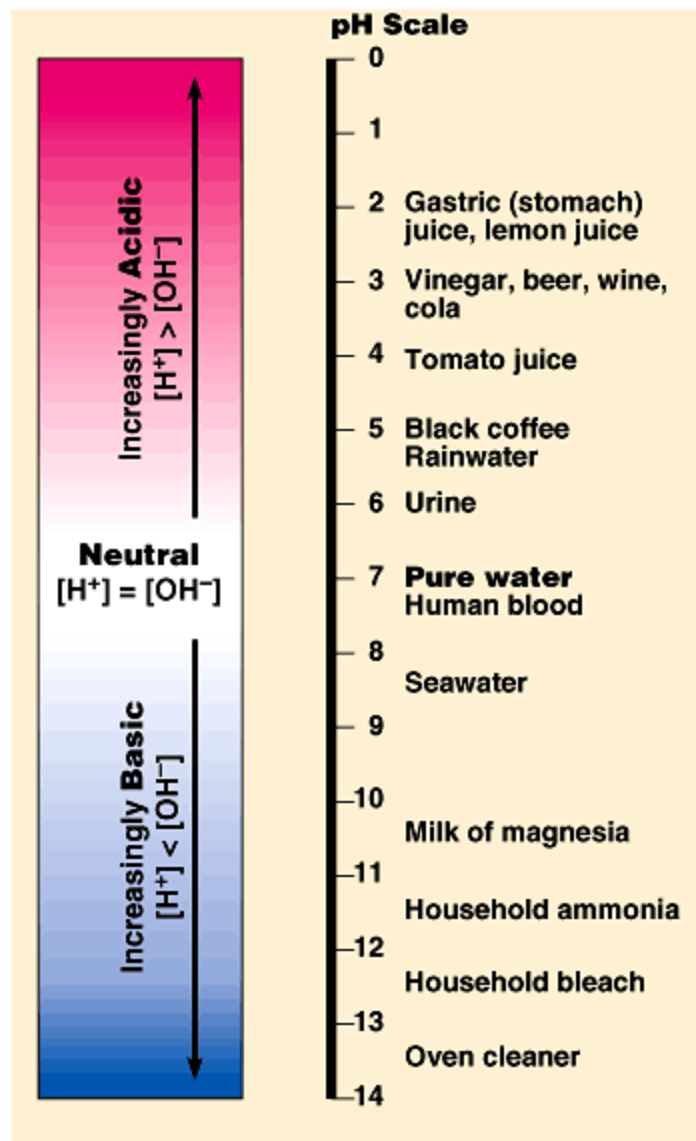
- The product of  $H^+$  and  $OH^-$  concentrations is constant at  $10^{-14}$

$$[H^+][OH^-] = 10^{-14}$$

- Brackets indicate Molar concentration
- Neutral solution:  $[H^+] = 10^{-7}$  and  $[OH^-] = 10^{-7}$
- If the concentration of one ion is known, we can determine the concentration of the other ion.
  - pH:  $-\log 10^{-7} = -(-7) = 7$
  - pH < 7 is ACIDIC
  - pH > 7 is BASIC
  - pH units represent a TENFOLD DIFFERENCE!!
    - pH of 3 is NOT TWICE as acidic as pH 6, but 1000X

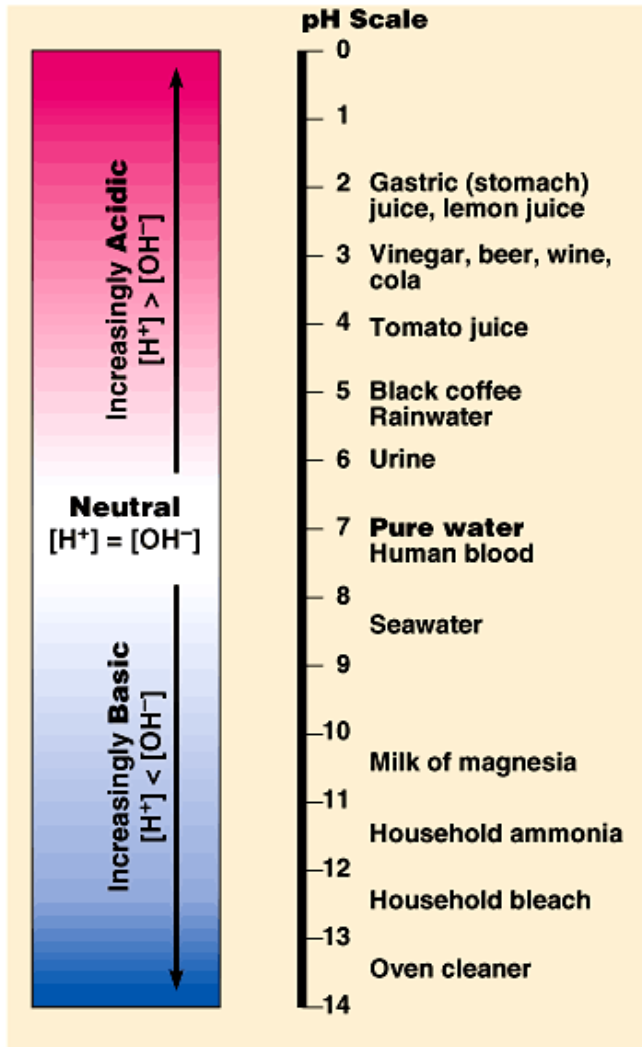
# Acids

- Ex: HCl dissociates in water to  $H^+$  and  $Cl^-$ ; adding more  $H^+$  ions to the solution
- Ex: carbonic acid
- Acids have  $> H^+$  than  $OH^-$
- Acids reduce the  $[OH^-]$





# Bases (Alkaline)



- Ex: NaOH dissociates to  $\text{Na}^+$  ions and  $\text{OH}^-$  ions
- Ex: Ammonia
- Bases have  $> [\text{OH}^-]$  ions than  $[\text{H}^+]$  ions
- Bases reduce the  $[\text{H}^+]$

# Buffers

- pH in most cells is near NEUTRAL (pH=7)
- Small changes in pH can affect the cell
- BUFFERS help maintain the pH
  - Work by accepting excess  $H^+$  from solution or donating  $H^+$  when in depletion

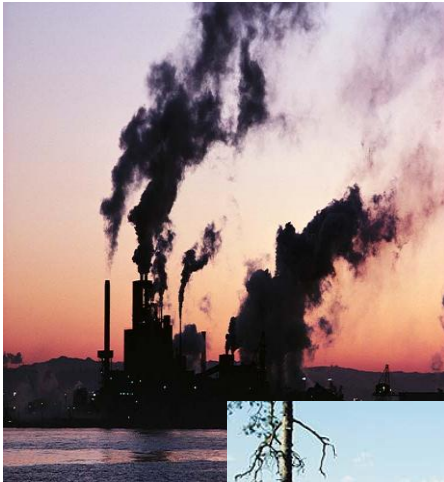


The symbol  $\rightleftharpoons$  means that dissociation is slight.

A single arrow pointing to the right means complete dissociation (complete reaction)

**Buffers usually contain a weak acid and weak base, much like Carbonic Acid in blood**

# Acid Precipitation



- Uncontaminated rain; pH~5.6
- Acid precipitation has pH < 5.6
  - Caused by sulfur oxides and nitrogen oxides in the atmosphere
  - Sources include: burning fossil fuels (coal, gas, oil) in factories and cars
  - Coal produces the most pollutant