

Acids, Bases and Reaction Rates Junior Science

Chemical and Physical change

Physical changes are concerned with energy and states of matter. A physical change does not produce a new substance. The starting and ending materials of a physical change are the same, even though they may look different. Changes in state (melting, freezing, vaporization, condensation, sublimation) are physical changes. Examples of physical changes include bending a piece of wire, melting icebergs, and breaking a bottle

A **chemical change** makes a substance that wasn't there before.

Evidence for a chemical change could be a colour change, a new smell, the chemicals get hotter or colder or a gas is produced.



Observing reactions

To observe means to record or make note of something we have experienced. We also think of observations as watching something, but in Science, observations may be made with any of our senses (by seeing, feeling, hearing, tasting, or smelling) or even using tools to make observations that are then changed into something our senses detect.

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Chemical reactions

GZ Science Resources

A **chemical reaction** is a process that produces a chemical change to one or more substances.

A chemical reaction will produce a **new substance**. Other observations of a chemical reaction may include a temperature change, a colour change or production of gas.





Reactants: $Zn + I_2 \longrightarrow Product: Zn I_2$



Reactants and products in a chemical reaction

The original substances that you start with, in a chemical reaction are known as **reactants**. Those that are formed are known as **products**. It is important to note that no matter is created or destroyed during a chemical reaction, but rather rearranged to form new substances.

Reactants



→ Products

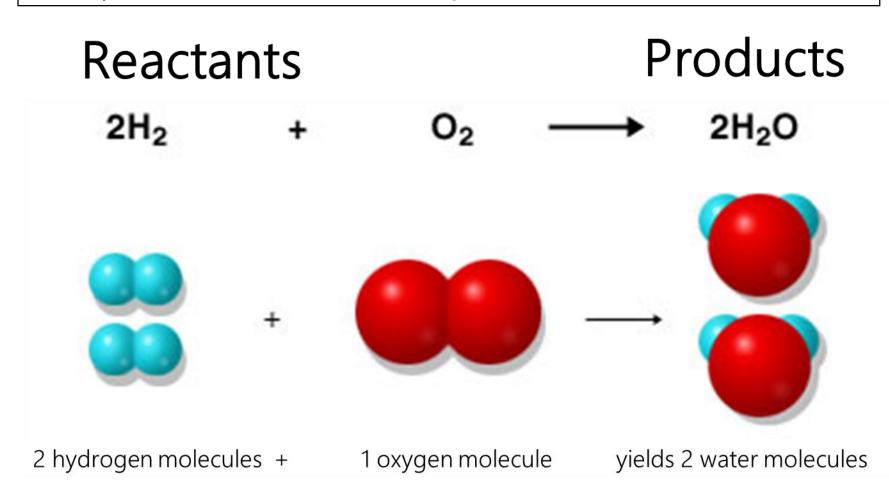


For example: making pancakes is a chemical change.
The reactants (ingredients you start with) are flour, milk, egg and sugar.
The product is pancakes.



Reactants join together to form new products during chemical reactions

The atoms present in the **reactants** rearrange themselves in different combinations and form new bonds. The new combinations of atoms are called **products** and can either be single atoms or molecules.





Chemical reactions – word equations

When we convert descriptions of reactions into word equations there is a set way of writing it. A word equation can also be written as a formula equation.

For example: When we use a BBQ we cook with propane gas (C_3H_8) which needs oxygen gas in the air (O_2) to combust (or burn). The burning process creates water (H_2O) and carbon dioxide gas (CO_2)

The word equation therefore will be:

Reactants on the left

Products on the right

Propane + oxygen → water + carbon dioxide

Add chemicals with a +

Show reactants turning into products with a →



Chemical reactions – word equations

When products are made in a reaction the name of it is often a combination of the names of the chemicals it is formed from. For example MgCl₂ is called magnesium chloride

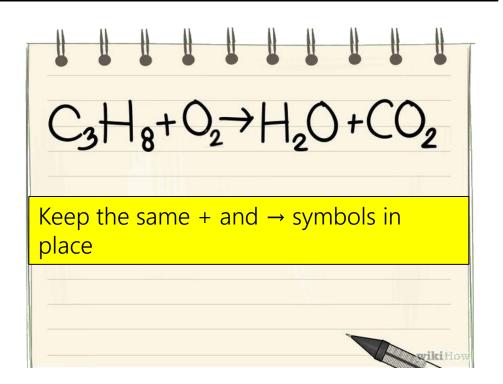
Cation			Anion	
1+	2+	3+	2-	1-
HUdrogen	Mg	Fe	Oxide	Cl
Na C Sodium	Ca	Iron (III)	SO ₄	OH Hydroxide
K C Potassium	Cu	AI C	CO ₃	NO ₃
NH ₄ C	Pb	Aluminium	Sulfide	Hydrogen Carbonate
Ag _ Silver	Zn	Fe C		F fluoride
Li C	Fe Iron (II)	Iron (III)		



Writing symbol equations

The word equation is:

Propane + oxygen → water + carbon dioxide



Once you can write word equations practice by writing the formula underneath

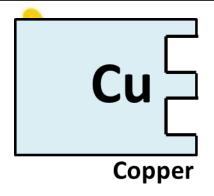
You are expected to know the formula for simple compounds water $-H_2O$ Carbon dioxide $-CO_2$ Oxygen gas $-O_2$ Hydrogen gas $-H_2$

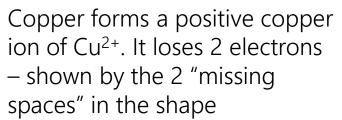
You will also need to remember formula for common acids and bases (given later in the unit)

You will need to use ion charts to write the formula for compounds made of ions.



The visual method for balancing compounds

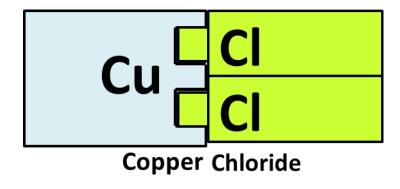






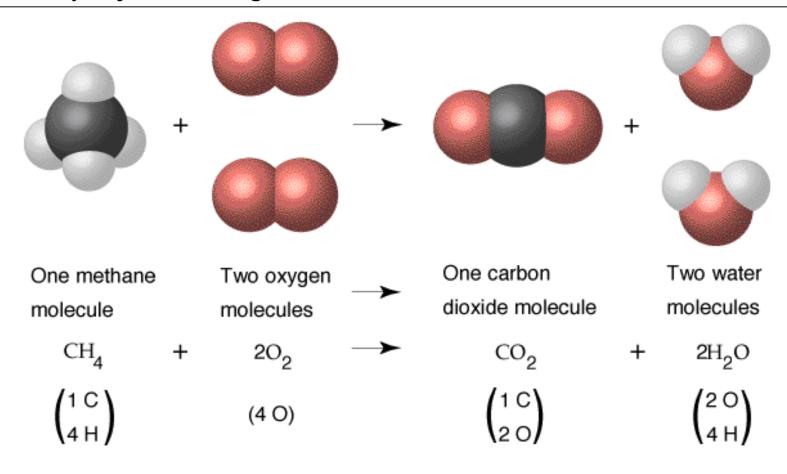
Chlorine forms a negative chloride ion of Cl⁻. It gains 1 electron – shown by the 1 "extra tab" in the shape

If we want to form a balanced ionic compound then each space in the positive ion must be filled by a tab from the negative ion. In this case 2 chloride ions are needed for each copper ion to form copper chloride.



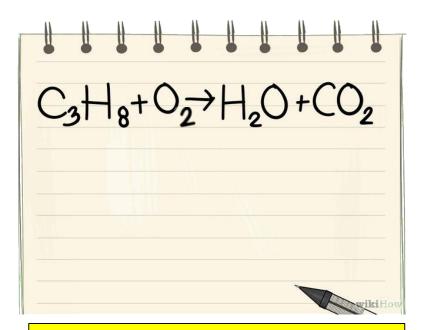


In a chemical equation the total number of atoms in the reactants must equal the total number of atoms in the products as no atoms are created or destroyed just rearranged with new bonds formed or bonds broken



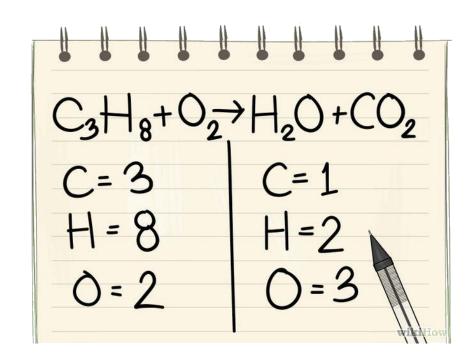


1. To balance an equation first write down the equation



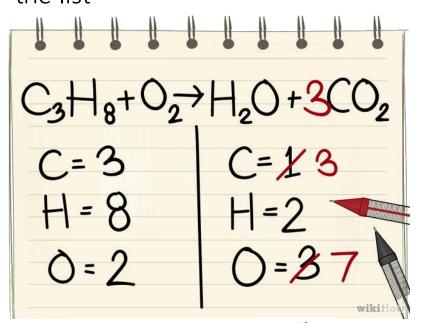
The total number of each type of atom must be the same for reactants and products if they equation is balanced

2. Count the total number of each atom for reactants and products



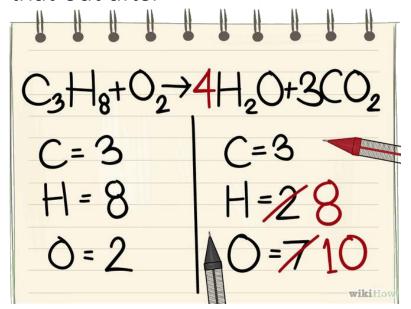


3. Starting with the first atom (C) multiply until it is the same on both sides – and place this number in front of the compound. You may change the number of another atom but you can sort this as you move down the list



Only put numbers in front of compounds **NOT** after an atom as this changes the formula

4. Moving down the list to the next atom (H) multiply until both sides are the same – again you may also increase another atom but sort that out after

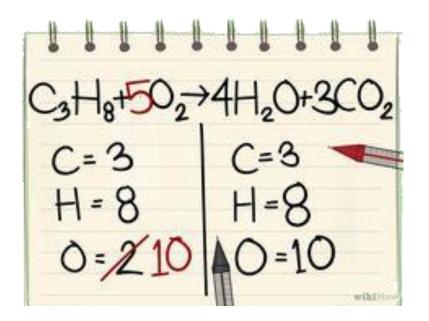




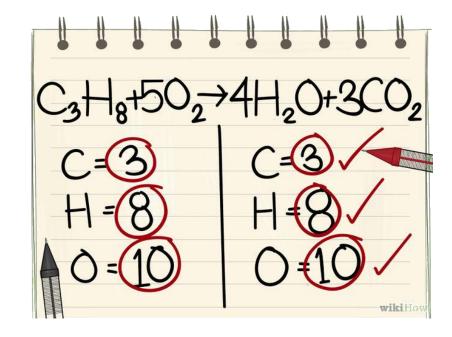


Sometimes you may have to go back and rebalance another atom again for the second time

5. Moving to the last atom on this list (O) multiply until it is the same number on both sides



6. If all atoms are the same number on both sides then the equation is balanced!





Testing for Oxygen gas

How to test for Oxygen Gas

- Put a small amount of Manganese dioxide into a boiling tube and add hydrogen peroxide. BE CAREFUL WITH THESE CHEMICALS and ALWAYS FOLLOW LAB SAFETY RULES
- 2. Put a bung with a delivery tube over the boiling tube and put the delivery tube into an upside down test tube to collect any gas.
- 3. Heat the tube gently with a Bunsen burner.
- 4. Remove delivery tube and place thumb over test tube.
- 5. Remove thumb quickly and place a glowing splint into the test tube.
- 6. If the splint re-ignites then it is likely the gas produced was oxygen.



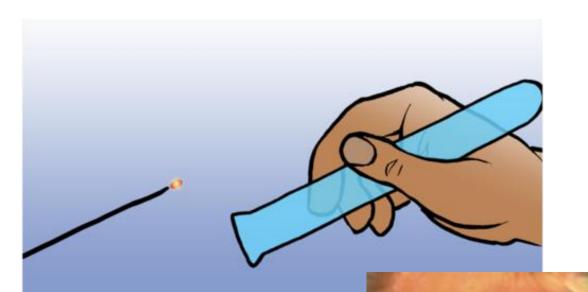
Oxygen gas is a molecule formed from two bonded oxygen atoms



Oxygen in the air combines with iron to form rust.



Testing for Oxygen gas



All types of combustion (burning) need oxygen. By supplying pure oxygen the glowing splint begins to combust at a faster rate which we see as flames.



Testing for Hydrogen gas

How to test for Hydrogen Gas

- Put a small piece of magnesium metal into a test tube with a small amount of dilute hydrochloric acid.
- Place another test tube upside down over top of the first test tube
- 3. Collect the gas in the upside down test-tube.
- 4. Place thumb over top of the test tube
- 5. Hold a lit match at the mouth of the test tube and remove thumb quickly
- 6. If the gas makes a loud 'pop' then it is likely that the gas produced is hydrogen.



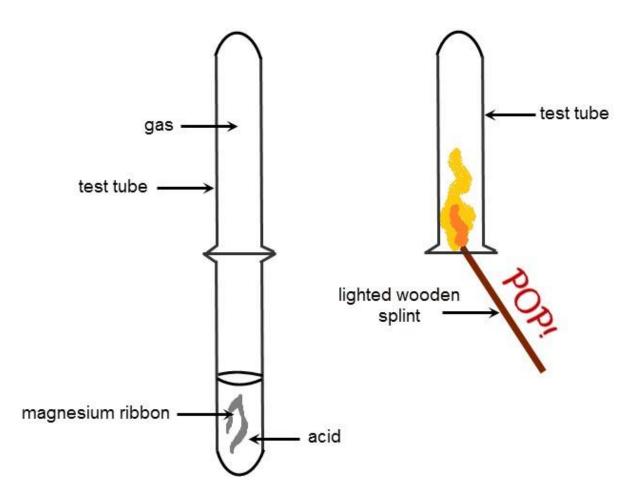
Hydrogen in Jupiter's Atmosphere



Rocket fueled by liquid hydrogen



Testing for Hydrogen gas



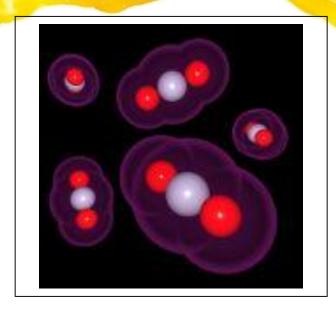
Hydrogen gas is lighter than air so it will rise to the top of any container. Hydrogen is very reactive so with the flame as energy, it will react with the oxygen in the air to form a much more stable water molecule. The difference in energy levels between the reactants (hydrogen and oxygen) and the products (water) is released as an explosion (a 'pop').

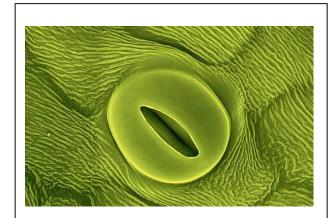


Testing for Carbon Dioxide gas

How to test for Carbon Dioxide Gas

- 1. Put a small amount of calcium carbonate with dilute hydrochloric acid into a boiling tube.
- 2. Put a bung with a delivery tube over the boiling tube.
- 3. Place the delivery tube into a test-tube filled with clear limewater
- 4. Observe the gas bubbling into the limewater.
- 5. If the limewater turns cloudy then it is likely that the gas produced is carbon dioxide.

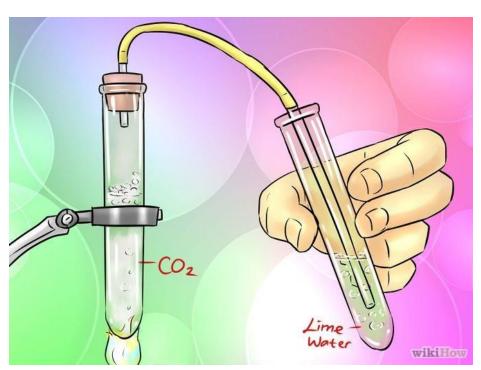


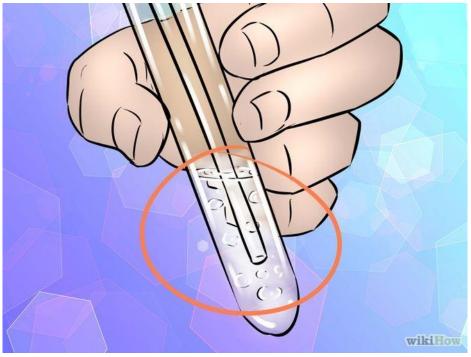


Plant stomata which allows CO2 gas into the leaf



Testing for Carbon Dioxide gas





Carbon Dioxide is a colourless gas and limewater is a solution of calcium hydroxide in water which is also colourless. The carbon dioxide gas reacts with the limewater and changes it into calcium carbonate which is not soluble (can not dissolve) in water and appears as a milky white colour.



Acids—their characteristics



Acids are a family of substances which all show acidic characteristics or properties. These properties relate to how the acids react with other chemicals.

They have a **sour taste** and react with metals. Acids can be found in nature and called **organic acids** or manufactured in the laboratory and called **mineral acids**.



Common acids - names and formula

Name	Chemical formula
Hydrochloric Acid	HCI
Sulfuric Acid	H ₂ SO ₄
Nitric Acid	HNO ₃
Ethanoic acid	CH ₃ COOH

React with most metals to form hydrogen gas

Taste sour (like lemons)

Frequently feel "sticky"

Usually gases or liquids

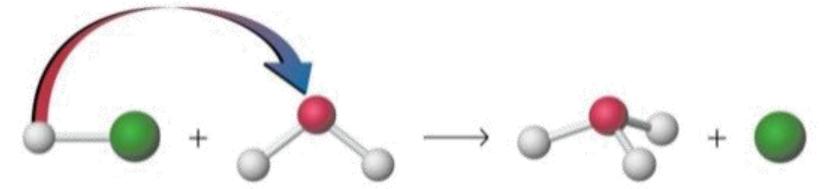
You need to learn these three acids and their formula



Defining an Acid

All acids contain hydrogen. When an acid reacts it gives away its **Hydrogen ion** (H⁺), which is really just a proton, and the electron remains behind.

Before the reaction After the reaction



Acid giving its hydrogen ion (H+) in a reaction

Acid with the hydrogen ion removed



Bases – their characteristics



Bases are a family of Chemicals that have hydroxide ions present (OH⁻). They have opposite properties from acids.

Common Household bases include floor clearers and antacid tablets to fix indigestion. A Base that dissolve into water are called an **alkali**.





Common bases - names and formula

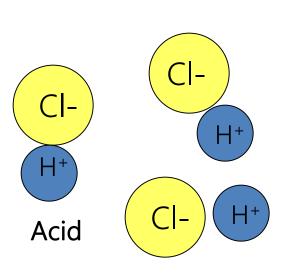
Name	Chemical formula
Sodium Hydroxide	NaOH
Calcium carbonate	CaCO ₃
Ammonia	NH ₃
Potassium hydroxide	КОН

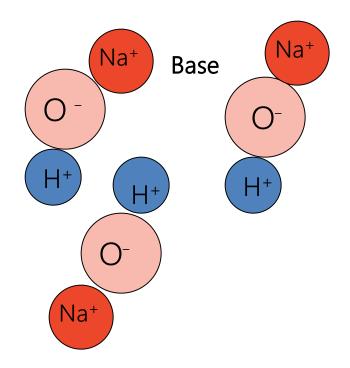
Feel "slippery". (because your skin dissolves a little when you touch them.)
Taste bitter (like baking soda)
React with oils and greases (used as cleaners)
Frequently solids



Acid and Base definition

An **acid** is a molecule or ion that is gives away a hydrogen ion (proton, H+), and a **base** can contain a hydroxide ion (OH⁻)





When an acid and alkali react together they form salt (an ionic salt made of positive and negative ions) and water

extra info

What is an Alkali

A base that dissolves in water and **produces a OH**⁻ **ion** (hydroxide) is known as an **alkali**. The solution is creates with water is known as alkaline.

Common alkalis are sodium hydroxide (NaOH) and potaszam hydroxide

(KOH)

The concentration of H⁺ and OH⁻ ions in a solution determine how acidic or basic it is.

High H⁺ concentration and low OH⁻ concentration mean the solution is acidic. Low H⁺ concentration and high OH⁻ concentration mean the solution is basic. When the concentration of H⁺ ions and OH⁻ ions are equal then the solution is said to be **neutral**, neither acidic or basic.



Corrosive





Indicators determine whether substances are acid, base or neutral.



Indicators can be used to determine the pH (how acid or base) of a solution by the colour change.

An indicator is a large organic molecule that works like a " colour dye". They respond to a change in the hydrogen ion concentration. Most of the indicators are themselves weak acids.

The most common indicator is found on **litmus paper**. It turns/remains red for acid and turns/remains blue for a base.

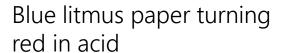
Universal Indicator, which is a solution of a mixture of indicators that provide a full range of colours for the pH scale.



Red and Blue Litmus paper works as an indicator

Added to	Blue Litmus	Red litmus	
Acid solution	Turns red	Stays red	
Base solution Stays blue		Turns blue	
Neutral solution	Stays blue	Stays red	







Litmus paper is easy to use, but it does not tell you how acid or base a solution is, or if it is neutral – unless you use both red and blue litmus paper

Red litmus paper turning blue in base



Universal Indicator is used to give the strength of the acid or base

https://www.minichemistry.com/ph-scale-indicators.html



The Universal Indicator is similar to the Litmus paper in that the acids turn the indicator mostly red and the bases turn the indicator mostly blue.

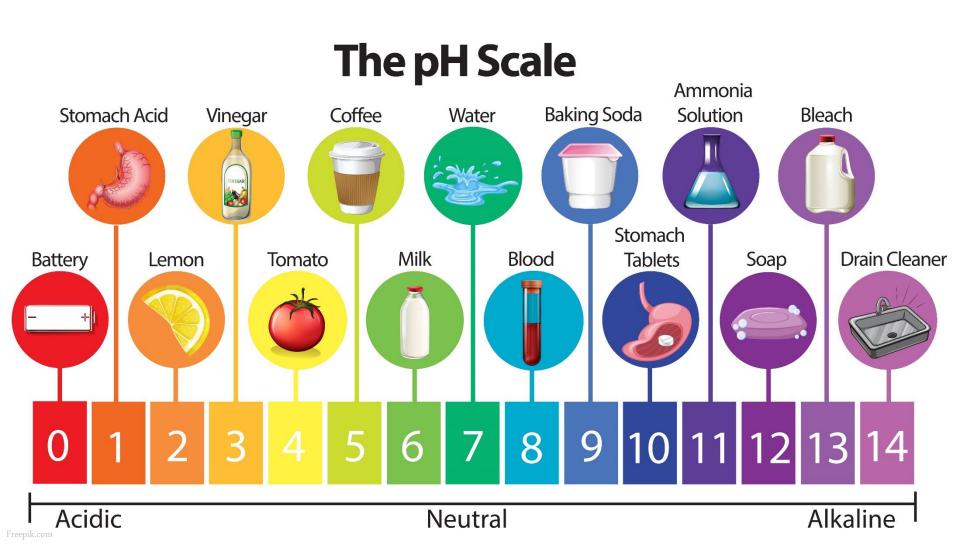
It does have an advantage over the litmus paper as it shows neutral by having a green colour and also has different colours for weak acids and weak bases.





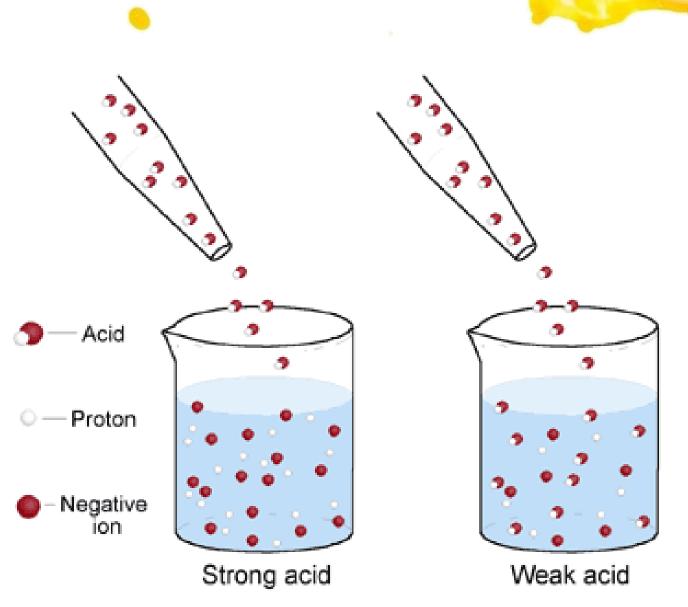
Common acidic, alkaline and neutral substances.

Pure water is **neutral**. But when chemicals are mixed with water, the mixture can become either acidic or basic.





strong and weak acids



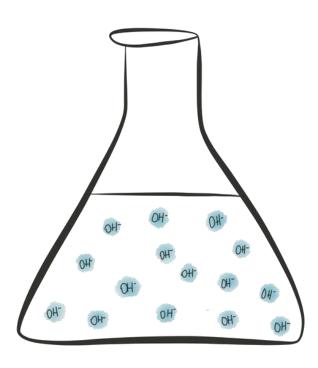
You can define acids and bases as being "strong" or "weak". **Strong acids** are compounds have a large amount of H⁺ ions. (proton in picture)
A **weak acid** has much less H⁺ ions.

Hydrochloric, nitric and sulfuric acid are all strong acids, while ethanoic acid is a weak acid

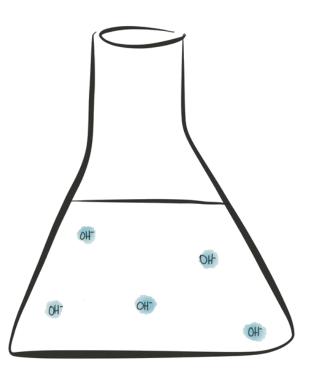


Strong and weak bases





Weak base



Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) is a strong base, while most carbonate bases tend to be weak.

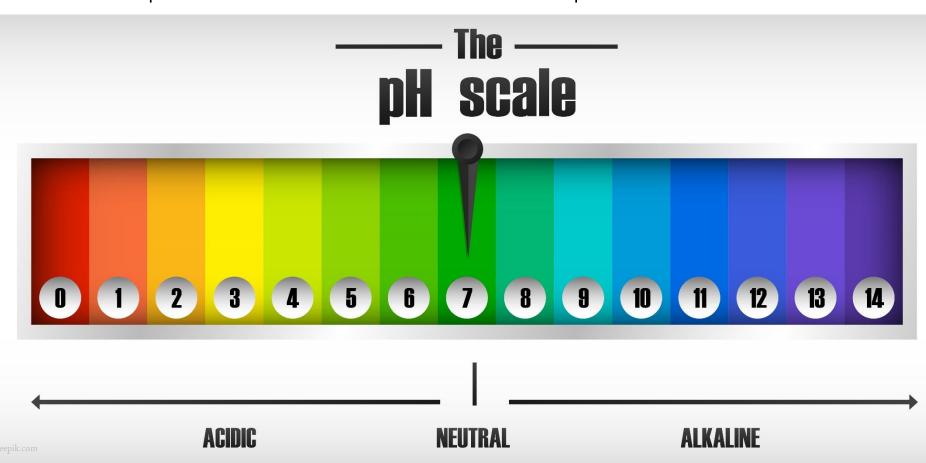
You can define bases as being "strong" or "weak". **Strong bases** are compounds where there are a large amount of OH-ions.

A weak base is a compound where there are much less OH- ions. Most weak base molecules remain unreacted.



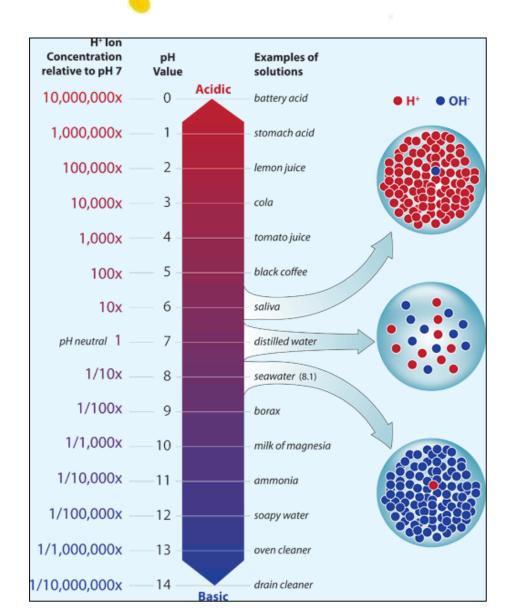
The pH scale.

A scale from 0-14 is used to indicate how acid or base a substance is. The pH scale is **logarithmic** and as a result, each whole pH value below 7 is ten times more acidic than the next higher value. For example, pH 4 is ten times more acidic than pH 5 and 100 times more acidic than pH 6.





The pH scale measures level of acidity and alkalinity



Substances with a pH of 7 are neutral, substances with a pH greater than 7 are alkaline (or 'basic') and substances with a pH lower than 7 are acidic. Remember alkalis are 'bases' that are soluble in water. (All alkalis are bases but not all bases are alkalis.)

The pH of a substance is determined by the concentration of hydrogen ions compared to hydroxide ions. The higher the concentration of hydrogen ions the lower the pH.



Putting it all together

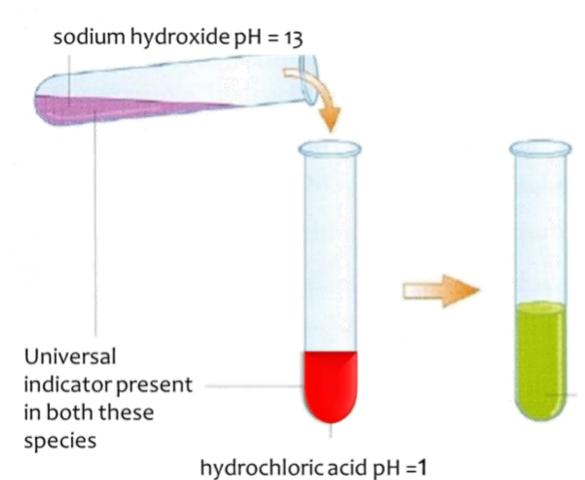
Blue litmus					
Red litmus					
Universal indicator					
рН	1 - 2	3 - 6	7	8 - 12	13 - 14
description	Strong Acids Readily donate all their protons when dissolved	Weak Acids donate only a small proportion of protons	Neutral solution	Weak Bases Accept only a small proportion of protons	Strong Bases Readily accept protons
H₃O ⁺ / OH ⁻ concentration	Concentration of H+ ions is greater than that of OH- ions		Concentration of H+ ions is the same as that of OH- ions		Concentration of H+ ions is less than that of OH- ions

Increasing acidity

Increasing alkalinity



Neutralisation

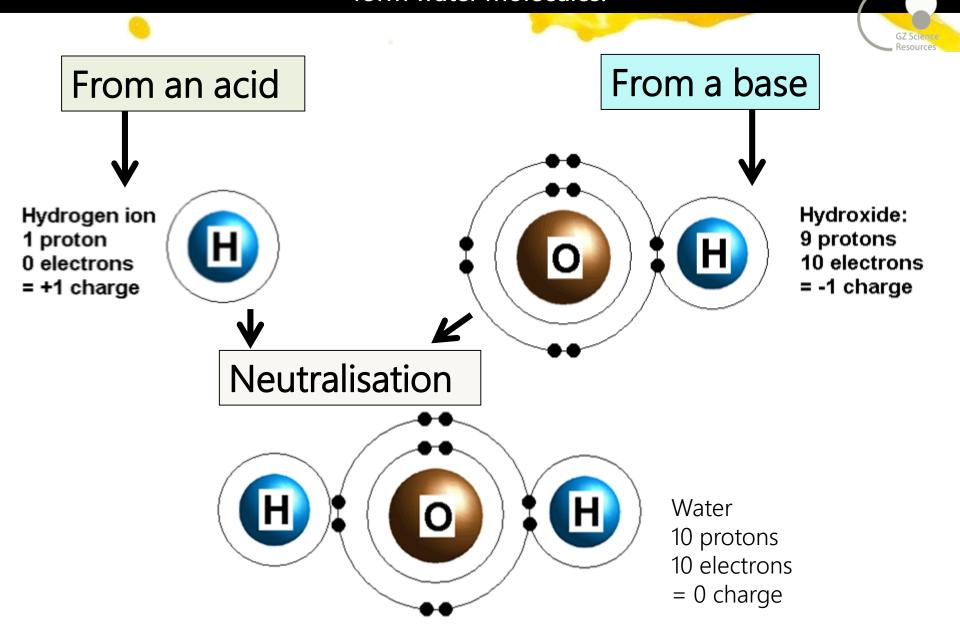


Neutralisation is a reaction where an acid reacts with an alkali to form a neutral solution of a salt and water.

Acid + Alkali → Salt + Water

sodium chloride pH = 7

During neutralisation reactions hydrogen ions combine with hydroxide ions to form water molecules.





Balanced equations for salt formation

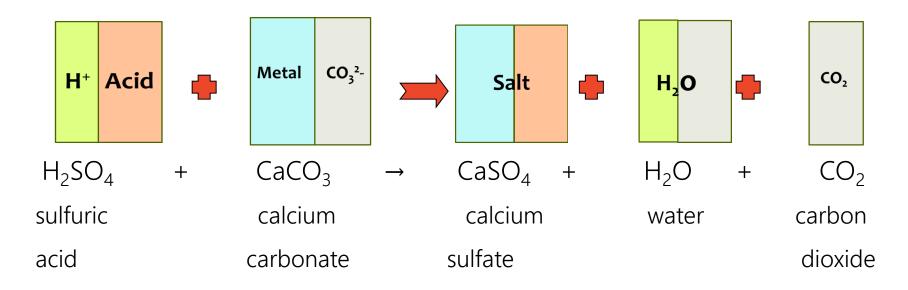
Bases neutralise acids and a salt and water are formed

$$H^+$$
 Acid $+$ Base OH \rightarrow Salt $+$ H_2 O

Example

Metal carbonates form salts, water and carbon dioxide gas when reacting with acid

Acids react with Carbonates to give a salt and water and carbon dioxide.

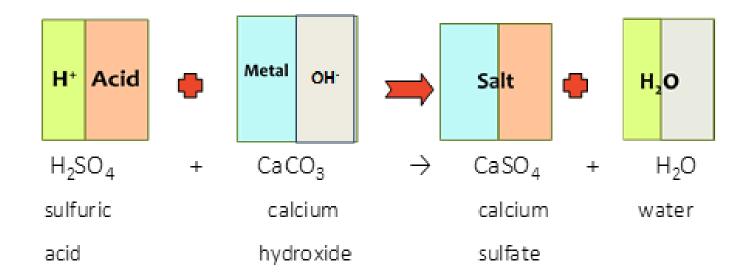


We can test to see if carbon dioxide has formed by bubbling the gas into another test tube filled with lime water. The lime water will turn cloudy if the gas is carbon dioxide.



Metal hydroxides form salts and water when reacting with acid

Acids react with hydroxides to give a salt and water.



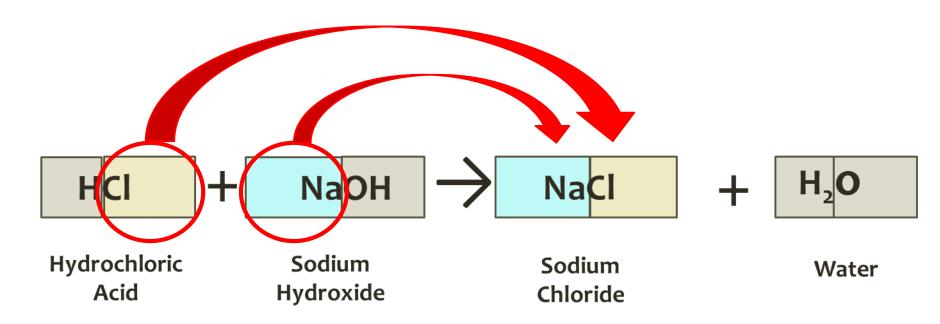
We can test to see if a solution has been neutralized (all of the acids and base has reacted to form salt and water) by testing with universal indicator which will turn green.



Names of salts

When salts are formed the name depends upon the acid reacted and the metal that forms part of the base compound.

Name of acid	Name of salt formed
Hydrochloric acid	chloride
Sulfuric acid	sulfate
Nitric acid	nitrate





Acid reactions summary

1. Acid and Base

General equation acid + metal oxide \rightarrow salt + water Word equation nitric acid + copper oxide \rightarrow copper nitrate + water Formula equation $2HNO_3 + CuO \rightarrow Cu(NO_3)_2 + H_2O$

2. Acid and Metal Carbonate

General equation acid + metal carbonate → salt + water + carbon dioxide **Word equation** hydrochloric acid + magnesium carbonate → magnesium chloride + water + carbon dioxide

Formula equation 2HCl + MgCO₃ → MgCl₂ + H₂O + CO₂



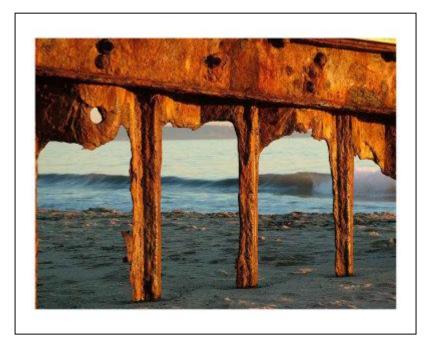
Reaction Rate

The reaction rate is the speed at which a chemical reaction occurs.

This is measured by how quickly the reactants change into products or how

quickly one of the reactants disappears.

Reactions can vary in their reaction rate



Iron oxidising

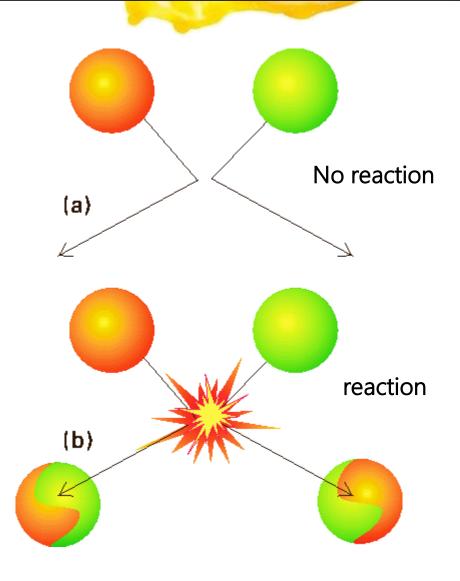


oxygen and hydrogen combusting



Chemical reactions occur when particle collide successfully

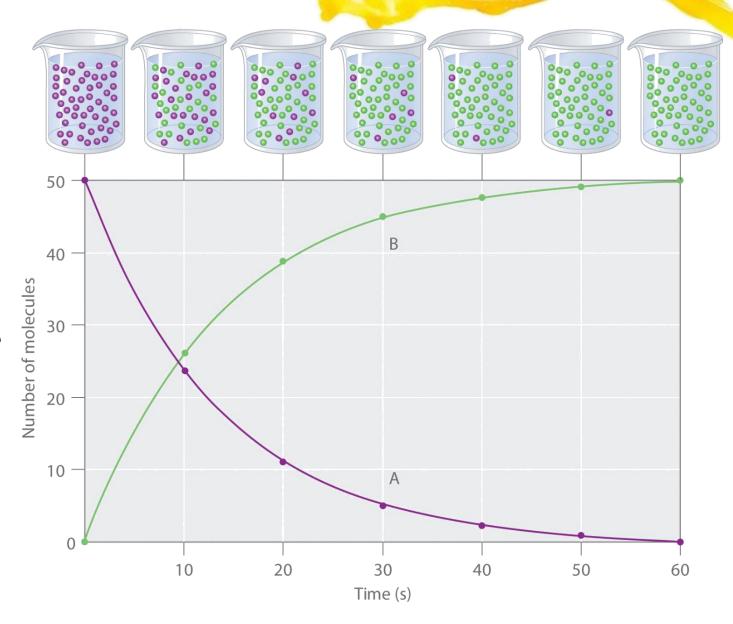
Chemical reactions between particles of substances only occur when the particles collide successfully. Changing factors such as temperature, concentration of reactants, surface area and adding a catalyst can change how many successful collisions occur or how quickly they occur. This then affects the reaction rate. Increasing these factors will increase the reaction rate.





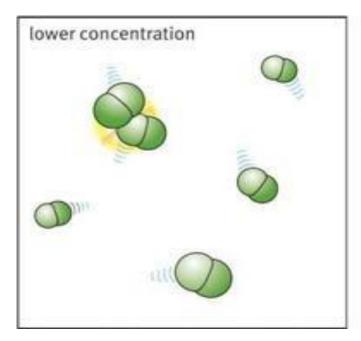
Reaction Rate

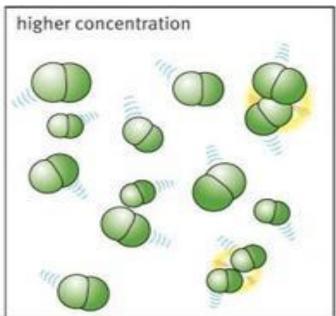
Reactions take place over time. As the amount of reactants decrease the amount of products increase. The reaction rate is shown as a curve because the amount of reactants at the start is greater and the reaction rate slows as they decrease





Reaction rate can be increased by increasing the concentration



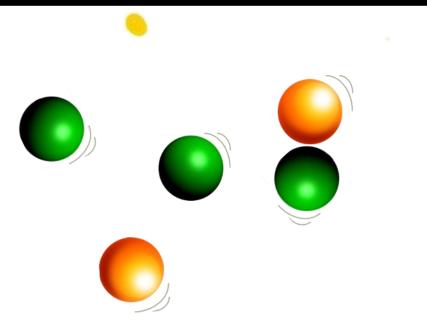


Increasing the concentration of one or more of the reactants will increase the reaction rate.

Decreasing the concentration of one or more of the reactants will decrease the reaction rate.



Reaction rate can be increased by increasing the concentration



Low concentration = few collisions

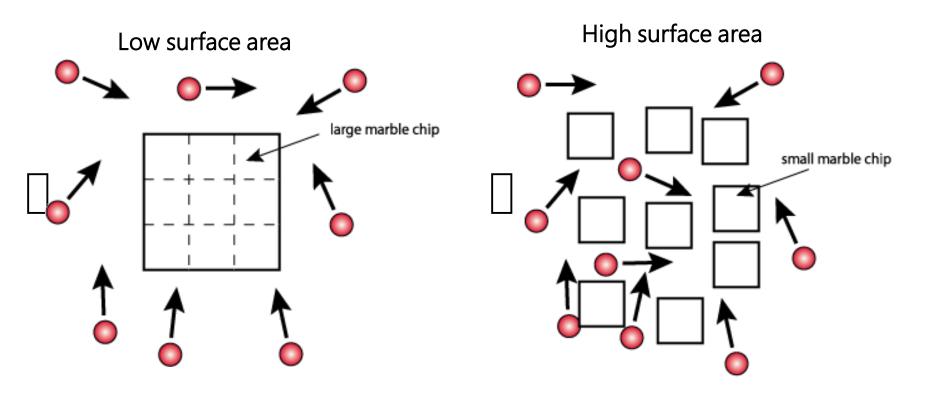
High concentration = more collisions

If there is a **higher concentration of a reactant**, there is a greater chance that particles will collide because there is less space between particles. There are **more particles per unit volume**. The **higher frequency of collisions** means there are more collisions per unit of time and this will **increase the rate of the reaction**.

If there is a lower concentration, there will be fewer collisions and the reaction rate will decrease.



Reaction rate can be increased by increasing the Surface Area

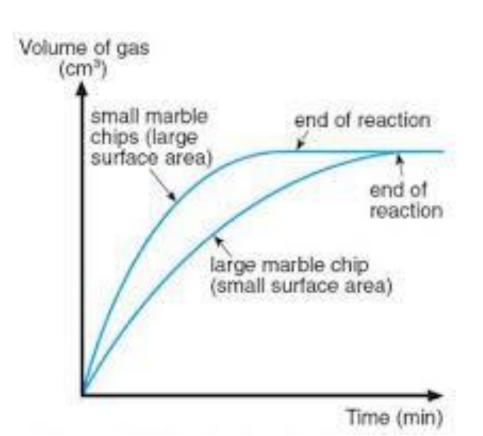


Surface area can be increased by grinding and crushing large lumps into a finer powder. The smaller the pieces the greater the surface area.



Reaction rate can be increased by increasing the surface area

By increasing surface area a greater number of reactant particles are exposed and therefore able to collide. The frequency of collisions (number of collisions per unit of time) will increase and therefore the reaction rate will also increase.

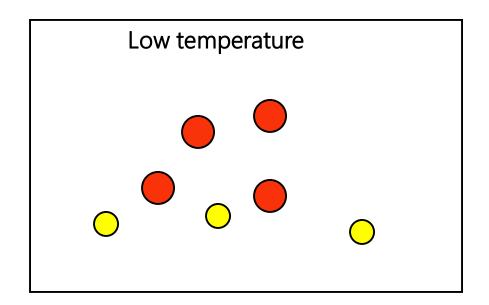


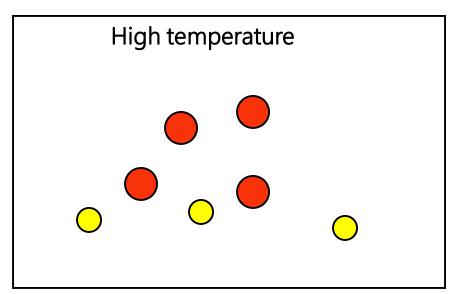
An example is comparing the reaction between marble (calcium carbonate) and hydrochloric acid to produce carbon dioxide gas.

Note: although the reaction rate is higher for the smaller marble chips the total amount of gas (CO₂) produced is the same for both reactions as they both started off with the same amount of reactants.



Reaction rate can be increased by increasing the Temperature



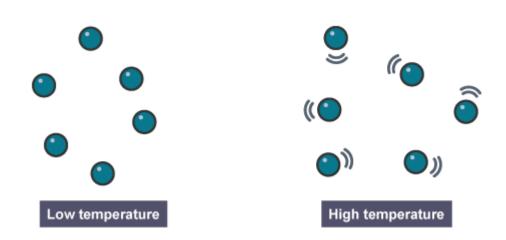


Increasing the temperature (kinetic energy) of the reacting particles will increase the reaction rate.

Decreasing the temperature (kinetic energy) of the reacting particles will decrease the reaction rate.



Reaction rate can be increased by increasing the Temperature



Increasing temperature effects the reaction rate in two ways.

Firstly when you raise the temperature of a system, the particles move around a lot more (because they have more kinetic energy). When they move around more, they are more likely to collide and the frequency of collisions increases, therefore the reaction rate increases. When you lower the temperature, the molecules are slower and collide less frequently therefore the reaction rate decreases.

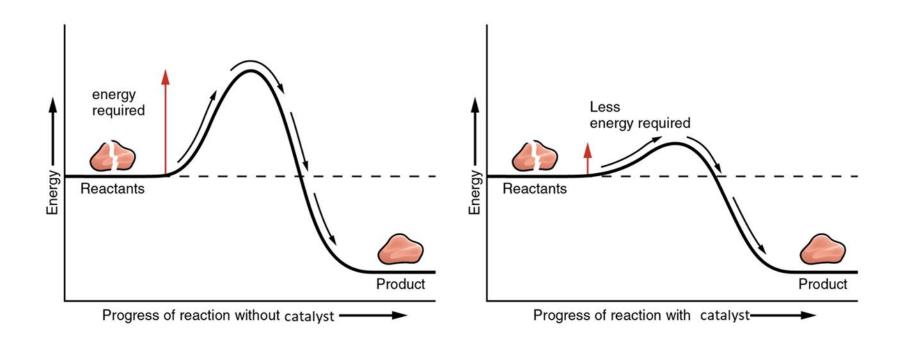
Secondly at a higher temperature a larger proportion of particles have sufficient (kinetic) energy to have the energy required during a collision for it to be successful and therefore a reaction to occur. This increases the proportion of successful collisions and therefore the reaction rate.



Reaction rate can be increased by using a catalyst.

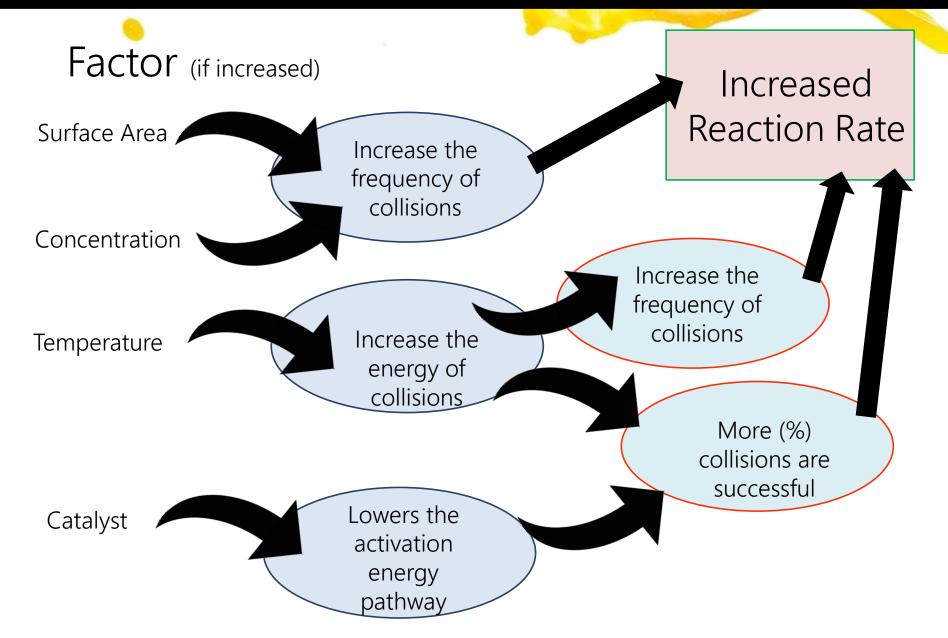
A catalyst is a substance that increases the reaction rate without being used up or forming part of the products. Only some reactions have catalysts that are effective, but for many reactions there is no catalyst that works.

A catalyst lowers the minimum amount of energy required for a reaction to take place. This means that the particles can successfully collide with less energy than they required before the catalyst was added. A greater proportion of particles will successfully collide, and therefore the reaction rate will be increased.





Summary of Reaction rates





Factors affecting Reaction Rate

Increase the frequency of collisions

- ➤ By increasing surface area: smaller pieces of reactant expose more reactant particles to collisions. Stirring will also in crease the reaction rate
- ➤ By increasing the concentrations: more reactant particles exist in a given volume so more collisions occur (per unit volume)

Increase the energy of collisions

>by increasing temperature: particles move faster so have more kinetic energy. More collisions will be effective (successful)

Note: increasing temp also increases frequency of collisions (collisions per unit time)

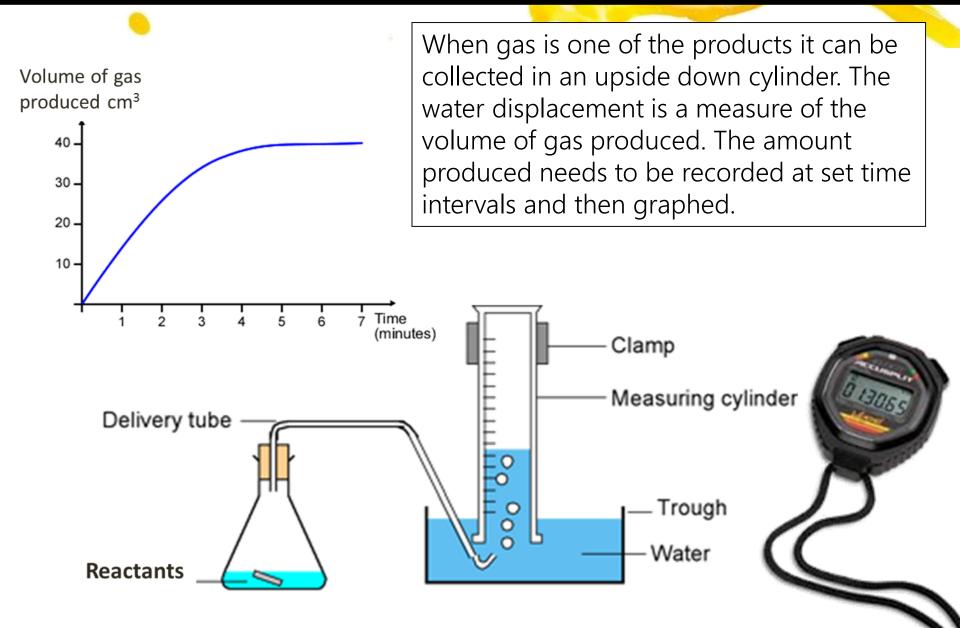
Make it easier for reaction to occur

>by using a catalyst: allows reaction to occur along a different energy pathway so more collisions are effective (successful)

Reaction rate can also be slowed down by decreasing these



Measuring the rate of reaction





Reaction rate case study

Hydrochloric acid was reacted with calcium carbonate in the form of marble chips (lumps) and powder (crushed marble chips) in an experiment to investigate factors affecting the rate of a chemical reaction..

Explain why the hydrochloric acid would react faster with the powder.

When the marble chips are crushed there is a **greater** surface area. This means there are now more particles for collisions to occur between the acid and the calcium carbonate. Because more collisions can now occur more frequently the reaction rate is faster.

