

Toothpick Atoms

Education Summary

Students will learn about basic principles of matter and life through creating their own personal molecule. Each student will be able to choose a molecule based on the periodic table and recreating it using cotton balls and toothpicks. They will then label and color their molecule to better distinguish it from other molecules

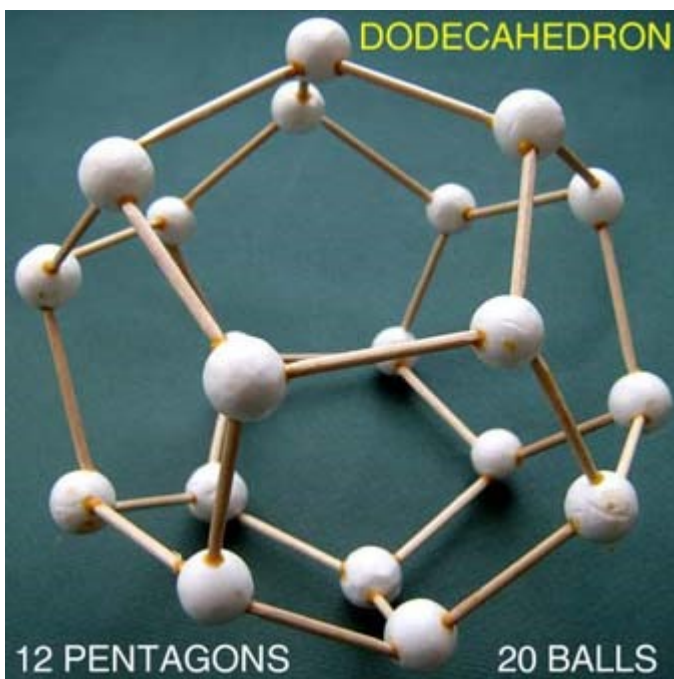
Objectives

After completing this lesson, students will be able to do the following:

- Describe how atoms are the building blocks of matter
- Explain the relationship between atoms, elements, molecules, and compounds
- Build a model of an atom and a molecule

Materials

- Toothpicks
- Cotton Balls (or any small soft material you can put a toothpick through like mini marshmallows)
- Glue



Step by Step

- 1) Start by looking up what kind of atom you want to create
- 2) Now begin gluing on a toothpick to a cotton ball
- 3) Then switch off adding toothpick then cotton ball
- 4) Note you cannot glue two cotton balls together or two toothpicks together, it must go cotton ball, toothpick, cotton ball ect...
- 5) You can have multiple toothpicks on different sides of one cotton ball
- 6) You may also rip your cotton balls in two to make a smaller ball
- 7) Once you have your atom shape, let it dry and you are all finished!

