

Chemistry

Have you ever wondered why particular substances behave the way they do? Do you wonder how water can change from ice to liquid to gas? This sort of question is what some scientists enquire into every day. They also study how particular substances behave when mixed with other substances.

Chemistry is the area of science that investigates how materials and substances behave. This includes how substances behave on their own and how they behave or change when mixed with other substances. A scientist who studies chemistry is known as a **chemist**.

There are many areas of chemistry. One way to categorise the different areas of chemistry is by the type of substances and changes a chemist is interested in. Some chemists investigate chemical reactions that occur within living things. These chemists are known as **biochemists**.

Other chemists are more interested in studying the chemistry of a particular type of substance, known as carbon, and how carbon can be used to make different substances. These chemists are known as **organic chemists**.

Chemists who investigate the chemistry of substances other than carbon are sometimes called **inorganic chemists**.

These are only three examples of types of chemists. There are many others.

Whatever branch of chemistry they belong to, all chemists study the behaviour of substances. In this book, you will learn about the various states a substance can be in, as well as how substances can change from one state to another. This book also explains the difference between reversible and irreversible changes that a substance can undergo.



Anyone who studies the behaviour of substances is a chemist.



Sample pages

Ice crystals form when the temperature is at the freezing point of water. Some chemists study ice and the way water forms crystals when it **freezes**.