Glycogen Hydrolysis Activity: Energy Storage and Release

AP Biology/College Level Teacher Guide

Overview

This guide supports implementation of the Glycogen Hydrolysis Activity: Energy Storage and Release using the 5E instructional model.

Learning Objectives

- Students will model glycogen breakdown through hydrolysis reactions
- Students will analyze the formation and breaking of glycosidic bonds
- Students will explain the relationship between polymer structure and function

Standards Alignment

- **ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE 1.3.A.1:** Hydrolysis is a chemical reaction involving the cleaving of covalent bonds.
- **ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE 1.4.A.1:** Monosaccharides are the monomers for polysaccharides.
- **ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE 3.3.A.1:** Energy is stored and released via the breaking and forming of chemical bonds.

Prerequisites

- Understanding of carbohydrate structure
- Knowledge of hydrolysis and dehydration synthesis
- Familiarity with enzyme-substrate interactions

Time Estimate

50 minutes

Materials Needed

- Computer/tablet with internet access
- Student Activity Sheet
- Molecular model kit (optional)

Teaching Tips by Phase

Phase 1: ENGAGE (5-10 minutes)

- Start with the phenomenon or problem presented
- Elicit student predictions and prior knowledge
- Create cognitive dissonance if possible
- Build excitement for investigation

Phase 2: EXPLORE (15-20 minutes)

- Allow students to investigate with minimal guidance
- Circulate and ask probing questions
- Encourage systematic data collection
- Note common discoveries and difficulties

Phase 3: EXPLAIN (10-15 minutes)

- Have students share their findings first
- Build on their observations to introduce concepts
- Address misconceptions directly
- Connect to broader biological principles

Phase 4: ELABORATE (10 minutes)

- Apply knowledge to new scenarios
- Make real-world connections
- Encourage deeper investigation

- Support transfer of learning

Phase 5: EVALUATE (5-10 minutes)

- Use varied assessment strategies
- Focus on conceptual understanding
- Provide immediate feedback
- Plan follow-up based on results

> **Remember:**
>
> The goal is student discovery through guided inquiry. Resist the urge to explain concepts before students have explored them!
