

Cellular Energy

ATP – adenosine triphosphate

Made up of a sugar (ribose), a nitrogen base (adenine), and 3 phosphate groups.

This is the energy molecule – it is used as the currency throughout the cell for any reaction taking place that requires energy.

The energy is stored between the second and third phosphate groups (in the bond). To release that energy, the bond is broken. In order to make the bond again, energy is stored in the molecule.

It is important to understand this molecule before moving into photosynthesis and cellular respiration.