

**Basic Photosynthesis**

**PHOTOSYNTHESIS**  
How do plants make their own food?

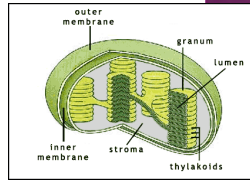
## PHOTOSYNTHESIS

- The ultimate source of energy for most life on earth is **the sun**
- Plants take in energy from the sun and carbon dioxide to make food and release oxygen
- Sunlight + H<sub>2</sub>O + CO<sub>2</sub> -> food + O<sub>2</sub>
- [video](#)



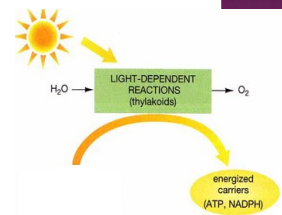
## PHOTOSYNTHESIS

- Photosynthesis occurs in the **chloroplasts** in two stages
- 1<sup>st</sup>: **Light-dependent reactions** require sunlight
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Light-independent reactions** do not require sunlight



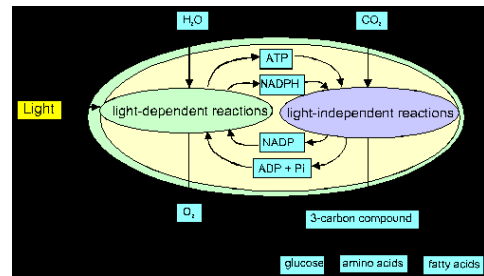
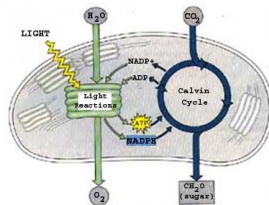
## LIGHT-DEPENDENT

- Produce 2 energy storing molecules:
  - ATP and NADH
- When sunlight splits water molecules in this step, oxygen is let off as waste
- Sunlight + water -> ATP + NADH + O<sub>2</sub>



## LIGHT-INDEPENDENT (CALVIN CYCLE)

- CO<sub>2</sub> and energy from ATP and NADH (produced in light-dependent) used to make sugars like **glucose**
  - Glucose is then used for energy or turned into things the plant might need (proteins, carbs, fats/lipids, or cellulose)
- CO<sub>2</sub> + ATP + NADH -> glucose



Overall:  
 $6\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{solar energy} \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 + 6\text{O}_2$