



Components

	NAME	DESCRIPTION	AUDIENCE
	<i>Naming hydrocarbons</i> teacher guide	This guide describes use of a learning object to teach students about how hydrocarbons are named, and different models that can be used to represent their structure.	teachers
	<i>How to name hydrocarbons</i> fact sheet	This fact sheet introduces IUPAC naming of alkanes, alkenes and alkynes to students, with examples.	students
	<i>Hydrocarbon explorer</i> learning object	Students use this learning object to construct models of alkanes, alkenes, alkynes and cycloalkanes with their correct name. Properties and 3-D views of selected hydrocarbons are also displayed.	students
	<i>Hydrocarbon models</i> worksheet	This worksheet accompanies the learning object, <i>Hydrocarbon explorer</i> .	students

Purpose

To **Explain** how hydrocarbons are named. Students use a computer animation to look at different models of alkanes, alkenes, alkynes and cycloalkanes.

Outcomes

Students:

- draw and name alkanes, alkenes and alkynes;
- describe differences in the structures and properties of alkanes, alkenes and alkynes.

Activity summary

ACTIVITY	POSSIBLE STRATEGY
Distribute and read through the fact sheet, <i>How to name hydrocarbons</i> . Teachers may ask students to draw and name additional examples of hydrocarbons.	whole group
Students explore the learning object, <i>Hydrocarbon explorer</i> . It may be useful for students to use a 'ball and stick' model kit to make some models that they observe in the learning object.	pairs
Students complete the worksheet, <i>Hydrocarbon models</i> , while using the learning object, then discuss results with a peer.	pairs, share

Technical requirements

The guide, fact sheet and worksheet require Adobe Reader (version 5 or later), which is a free download from www.adobe.com. The worksheet is also provided in Microsoft Word format.

The learning object may be placed on a web or file-server, and run locally or remotely in any modern browser on computer or tablet. Jmol/JSmol software is used to display 3-D models. This requires Java or HTML5 support.

The learning object can also be accessed online at <http://spice.wa.edu.au/resources/hydrocarbon-explorer/>

Using the learning object

The learning object *Hydrocarbon explorer* allows users to interactively construct models of acyclic and cyclic hydrocarbons, see how they are named and look up their basic physical properties.

Straight-chain hydrocarbons

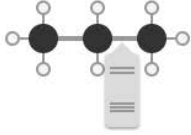
Skip to nav

Hydrocarbon explorer

Use the controls below to build your own straight-chain hydrocarbon with up to ten carbon atoms. Select carbon-carbon bonds to convert them into single, double or triple bonds. For many molecules 3-D models will appear that can be manipulated.

A

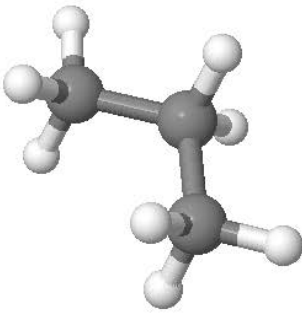
Add carbon Take carbon Ball & stick Space fill Spin



B

Name: propane
Formula: C₃H₈
Structure: CH₃CH₂CH₃
Melting point: -188°C
Boiling point: -42°C

C



JSmol

Naming hydrocarbons

- Straight-chain hydrocarbons
- Cycloalkanes

The second screen of the learning object (Straight-chain hydrocarbons) is divided into three sections (A, B and C), as shown above.

The molecule is built in section A; properties of the molecule are displayed in section B; and a 3-D model displayed in section C.

Initially methane will be displayed. Build a molecule by selecting **Add carbon** to make progressively longer alkanes (ethane, propane, ... , up to decane). **Take carbon** reverses the process.

To insert a double or triple bond in the molecule, hover over any carbon-carbon bond in section A to display a pop-up bond menu. Select the bond type you want. Neighbouring bonds will be changed if the molecule you create is not possible (eg if you select a triple bond next to an existing double bond then the double bond will be reduced to a single bond).

As the molecule is changed, section B displays its IUPAC name, formula, structure and, where available, its melting point and boiling point.

At the same time, a 3-D 'Jmol' model of the molecule is displayed in section C. This model can be rendered as either **Ball & stick** or **Space fill**. It can be dragged with the mouse to display the molecule from different view points, or set to **Spin** automatically.

Additional Jmol options are available by right-clicking in the window (control-click for Macintosh users). A guide to using Jmol is available at http://wiki.jmol.org/index.php/Mouse_Manual

Select **Next** to display a similar page for cyclic hydrocarbons (propane to decane).

3-D models are available for only some of the molecules that can be created in the top section. Those currently available in the learning object are listed below.

ALKANES	ALKENES	ALKYNES	CYCLIC HYDROCARBONS
methane	ethene	ethyne	cyclopropane
ethane	propene	propyne	cyclobutane
propane	propa-1,2-diene	but-1-yne	cyclopentane
butane	but-1-ene	but-2-yne	cyclohexane
pentane	but-2-ene	pent-1-yne	cycloheptane
hexane	buta-1,3-diene	pent-2-yne	cyclooctane
heptane	pent-1-ene	hex-1-yne	
octane	pent-2-ene	hex-2-yne	
nonane	hex-3-ene	hex-3-yne	
decane		non-1-yne	
		nona-1-en-7-yne	
		dec-4-yne	

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Molecular models in *Hydrocarbon explorer* are represented using JSmol (an extension of the Java-based molecular visualization applet, Jmol, as an HTML5 JavaScript-only web app). See <http://www.jmol.org/> for details.

Jmol data files used to construct the models in *Hydrocarbon explorer* come from two sources:

- Prof Albert Pratt, Dublic City University
<http://webpages.dcu.ie/~pratta/jmgallery/>
- Dr Dave Woodcock, Okanagan University College
<http://elchem.kaist.ac.kr/jhkwak/okanaganpdb97/molecule/molecule.html>

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Associated SPICE resources

Hydrocarbon chemistry 3: Naming hydrocarbons may be used in conjunction with related SPICE resources to address the broader topic of organic chemistry.

DESCRIPTION	LEARNING PURPOSE
<i>Hydrocarbon chemistry</i> This learning pathway shows how a number of SPICE resources can be combined to teach the topic of organic chemistry.	
<i>Hydrocarbon chemistry 1: Coconut oil</i> This resource engages students in organic chemistry by showing them how fuel can be made from plants in a very basic home set-up.	Engage
<i>Hydrocarbon chemistry 2: Biodiesel</i> This resource further explores biodiesel production as students make their own biodiesel and compare its properties with those of other fuels.	Explore
<i>Hydrocarbon chemistry 3: Naming hydrocarbons</i> This resource explains to students how hydrocarbons can be drawn and systematically named.	Explain
<i>Hydrocarbon chemistry 4: Hydrocarbon economy</i> Australia uses a wide range of hydrocarbons for domestic and industrial purposes. How is this range supplied from available sources?	Elaborate