

Concept 5.5

Enzymes are proteins that speed up specific reactions in cells.

Enzymes and Activation Energy:

Activation Energy - initial or “start-up” energy needed activate the reactants and trigger a chemical reaction.

Catalysts - compounds that speed up chemical reactions.

Enzymes -The main catalysts of chemical reactions in organisms. They provide a way for reactions to occur at the cell’s normal temperature.

How Enzymes Work:

Substrate - A specific reactant acted upon by on enzyme.

Active Site - A particular region of the enzyme that the substrate fits.