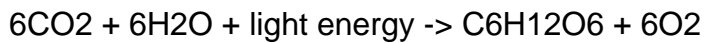


Basics of Photosynthesis

Photosynthesis is the process by which green plants and some other organisms use sunlight to synthesize foods with the help of chlorophyll. It generally involves the green pigment chlorophyll and generates oxygen as a by-product.

The overall chemical equation for photosynthesis is:



This process takes place primarily in the leaves of plants, in cells that contain chloroplasts. There are two main stages: the light-dependent reactions and the Calvin cycle (light-independent reactions).