

From Small to Big

Explore how all big things are made up of many small parts!

Materials Needed: Cornstarch building blocks (e.g. Magic Nuudles), water, paper towel. You can also use LEGO or other building bricks.

Caution: Building blocks can be choking hazards. Closely supervise young children.



Think about how cells make up every living thing, including big things like whales and trees. Cells are tiny building blocks! Some are so small we need powerful microscopes to see them.

Create a big creature from small building blocks put together. Dab the ends of building blocks on a damp paper towel, and stick to other pieces to connect them together. Make a creature that lives on Earth, or use your imagination to come up with a new creature. Be creative!

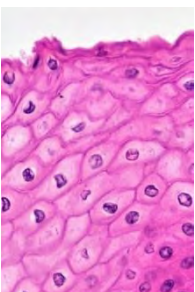
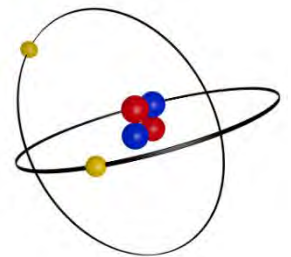
Hint: Cornstarch blocks will quickly dissolve in water, so use only a small amount.

What Are Big Things Made Of?

Atoms

Everything in the universe is made up of tiny atoms. Atoms connect or interact with each other in different ways to make up the world around us!

The number of atoms making up our world is so big that it is hard to count! One grown-up human is made of around **7,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000** (7 octillion) atoms. Imagine how many atoms are in your home, the Earth, or the universe!



Cells

All living things have special building blocks called cells. Each contains all the instructions a creature or plant needs to grow and survive. The simplest living beings such as bacteria are made up of just one cell, while bigger animals are made up of millions (ant), billions, trillions, or even quadrillions (blue whale) of cells!

