LESSON 38

Let's Build It! Molecular Shape

Name	9
Date	Period

Purpose

To build ball-and-stick models from molecular formulas, using Lewis dot structures as a guide.

Materials

ball-and-stick model-building materials

For each molecule, first draw the Lewis dot structure. Then build a three-dimensional molecular model, using the Lewis dot structures as a guide. Use black spheres to represent carbon, red for oxygen, white for hydrogen, and blue for other atoms.

Molecular formula	Lewis dot structure	Structural formula with lone pairs	Describe/draw shape
methane CH ₄			tetrahedral
water H ₂ O			
ammonia NH ₃			
carbon dioxide CO_2			0 0
chloromethane CH ₃ Cl			
$\begin{array}{c} \text{dichloromethane} \\ \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \end{array}$			

Molecular formula	Lewis dot structure	Structural formula with lone pairs	Describe/draw shape
methanol CH₃OH			
ethane C_2H_6			
methyl amine CH ₃ NH ₂			
formic acid CH ₂ O ₂			
ethene (ethylene) C_2H_4			
hydrogen cyanide HCN			
ethyne (acetylene) C_2H_2			

Making Sense

How does the Lewis dot structure help you draw the structural formula?