

What is the primary source of energy for animals?

The primary source of energy for animals is carbohydrates, primarily glucose: the body's fuel. The digestible carbohydrates in an animal's diet are converted to glucose molecules and into energy through a series of catabolic chemical reactions. Adenosine triphosphate, or ATP, is the primary energy currency in cells.

How do animals store energy?

Animals store the energy obtained from the breakdown of food as ATP. Likewise, plants capture and store the energy they derive from light during photosynthesis in ATP molecules. ATP is a nucleotide consisting of an adenine base attached to a ribose sugar, which is attached to three phosphate groups.

How do animals get energy?

The energy it takes to maintain this body temperature is obtained from food. The primary source of energy for animals is carbohydrates, primarily glucose: the body's fuel. The digestible carbohydrates in an animal's diet are converted to glucose molecules and into energy through a series of catabolic chemical reactions.

How are energy substances stored?

Storage and utilization of energy substances involve two different controlling processes. In advanced animals, glucose is stored in the form of hepatic and muscle glycogen, and glycogen is re-used by phosphorolysis. Fatty acids are stored in the form of fat, especially hypodermic fat, and provide energy to the body through β -oxidation.

How do animals obtain nutrition and energy from food?

Obtaining nutrition and energy from food is a multi-step process. For true animals, the first step is ingestion, the act of taking in food. This is followed by digestion, absorption, and elimination. In the following sections, each of these steps will be discussed in detail.

How do animals store fatty acids?

Both are storage polymers of the sugar glucose and differ only in the frequency of branch (more...) To compensate for long periods of fasting, animals store fatty acids as fat droplets composed of water-insoluble triacylglycerols, largely in specialized fat cells.

Triglycerides serve as energy reserves for the plant (seeds) or animal (fat depots). As the fat content of feed goes up so does its energy value. Functions of fats include providing energy, ...

Biochemical reactions within mitochondria transform energy-carrying molecules into the usable form of cellular energy known as ATP. Peroxisomes contain enzymes that transform harmful substances such as free radicals into oxygen ...

Living organisms require a constant flux of energy to maintain order in a universe that tends toward maximum disorder. Humans extract this energy from three classes of fuel molecules ...

Omnivores are animals that eat both plants and animals. Humans, bears and chickens are examples of vertebrate omnivores; invertebrate omnivores include cockroaches and crayfish. Regardless of whether an animal is an herbivore, ...

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Animal cells can also synthesize branched polymers of glucose known as glycogen, which in turn aggregate into particles that are observable via electron microscopy. A cell can rapidly mobilize ...

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fat, any substance of plant or animal origin that is nonvolatile, insoluble in water, and oily or greasy to the touch. Fats are usually solid at ordinary temperatures, such as 25 °C (77 °F), but they begin to liquefy at ...

In this section we trace the major steps in the breakdown, or catabolism, of sugars and show how they produce ATP, NADH, and other activated carrier molecules in animal cells. We concentrate on glucose breakdown, since it ...

