



Dissolving

Dissolving happens when one substance breaks apart into tiny particles and becomes completely mixed throughout another. Substances that dissolve, such as sugar, salt, or tablets, are called solutes. Substances that can dissolve solutes, such as water or ethanol, are called solvents. Together, they form a solution.

Dissolving sugar

Sugar dissolves easily in water. Once dissolved, the sugar can no longer be seen.

Sugar is a solute

Water is a solvent



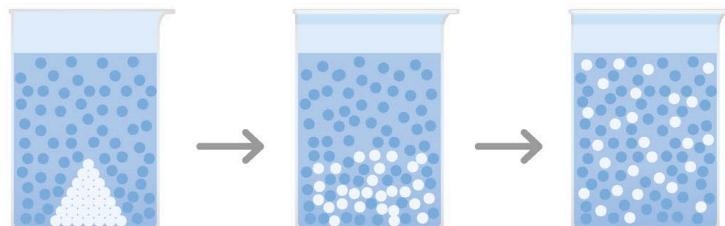
Key Facts

- ✓ Solutes are substances that are being dissolved.
- ✓ Solvents are liquids that dissolve solutes.
- ✓ Solutions are created when solutes dissolve in solvents.
- ✓ Not all substances can dissolve.



Molecules Separate

Many substances dissolve in water. Water molecules are attracted to many different kinds of molecules and atoms, breaking them apart easily. You can make solutes dissolve faster by heating and stirring mixtures.



1. At first, the solute, such as salt, holds together because of the bonds between its atoms or molecules.

2. Gradually, water molecules surround the salt particles, breaking them away from each other.

3. When the solute is completely dissolved, it is evenly spread out through the solvent.