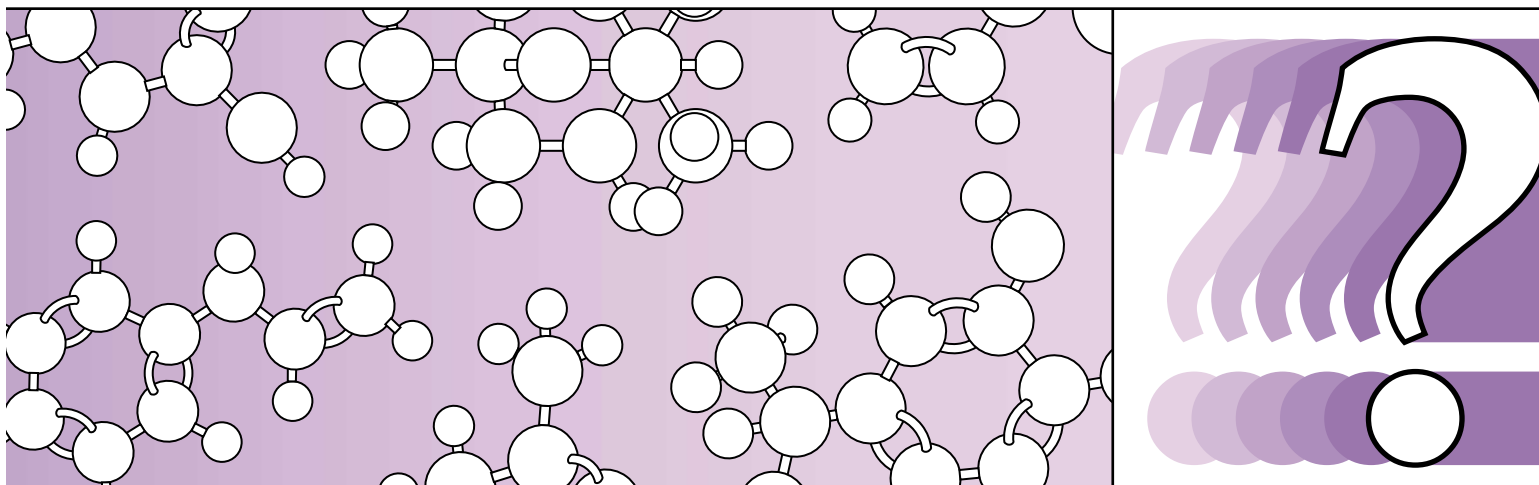


The Pfizer Foundation Biochemistry

Discovery Lab

Build smelly molecules



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Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation (NSF).

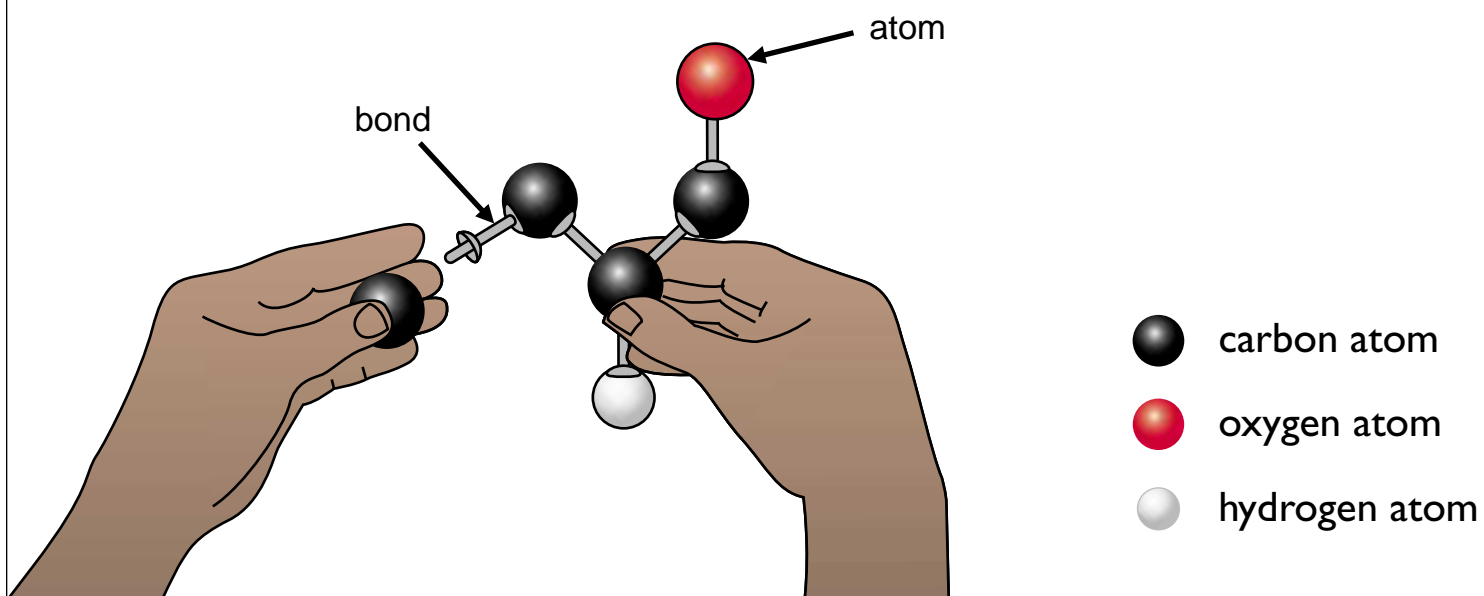
The Pfizer Foundation and the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.

Smells are made of molecules.

**Build a model of a molecule
that is in the smell of
an herb or spice.**

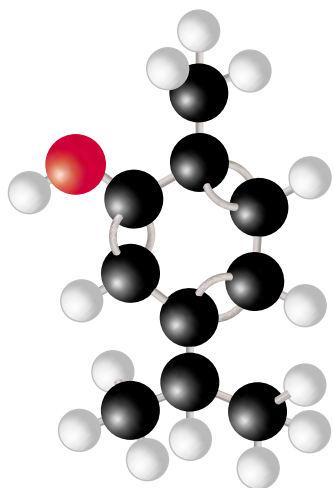
Use the atom pieces to build a model of one of the smelly molecules.

Different people in your group could make different parts of the same molecule, then join them together.



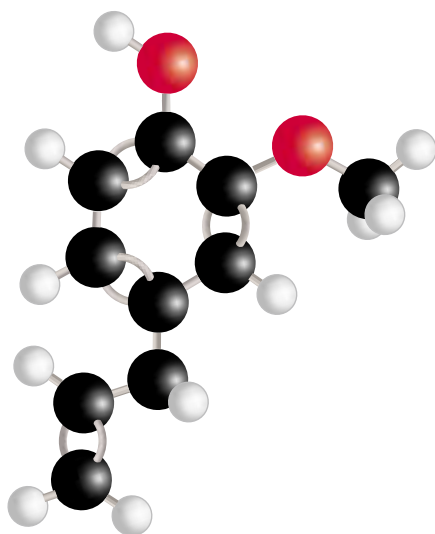
The model you are building
is millions of times larger
than a real molecule.

Find out what smell molecule you built

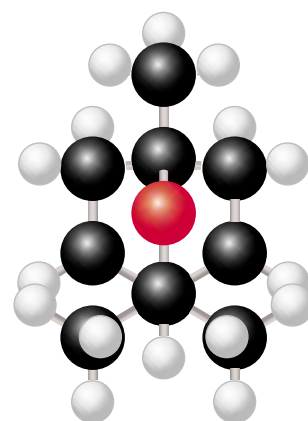


This molecule is in the
smell of oregano.

You might think of
pizza when you smell it.



This molecule is in the
smell of cloves.



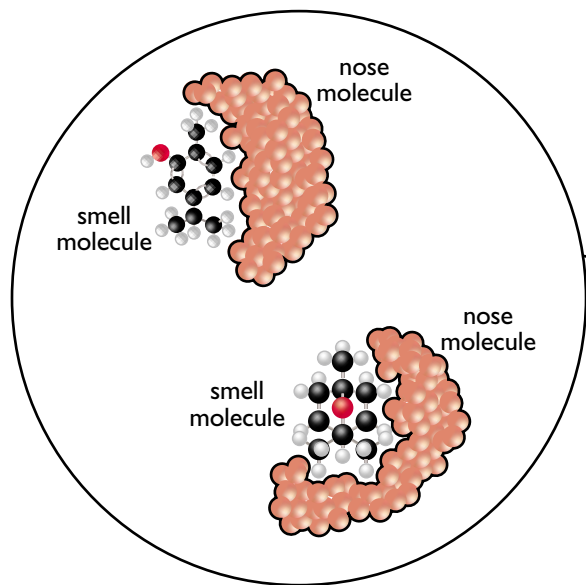
This molecule is in the
smell of rosemary.

It smells like
eucalyptus.

Something has a smell when some of the molecules leaving it go up your nose, and interact with the molecules in your nose.



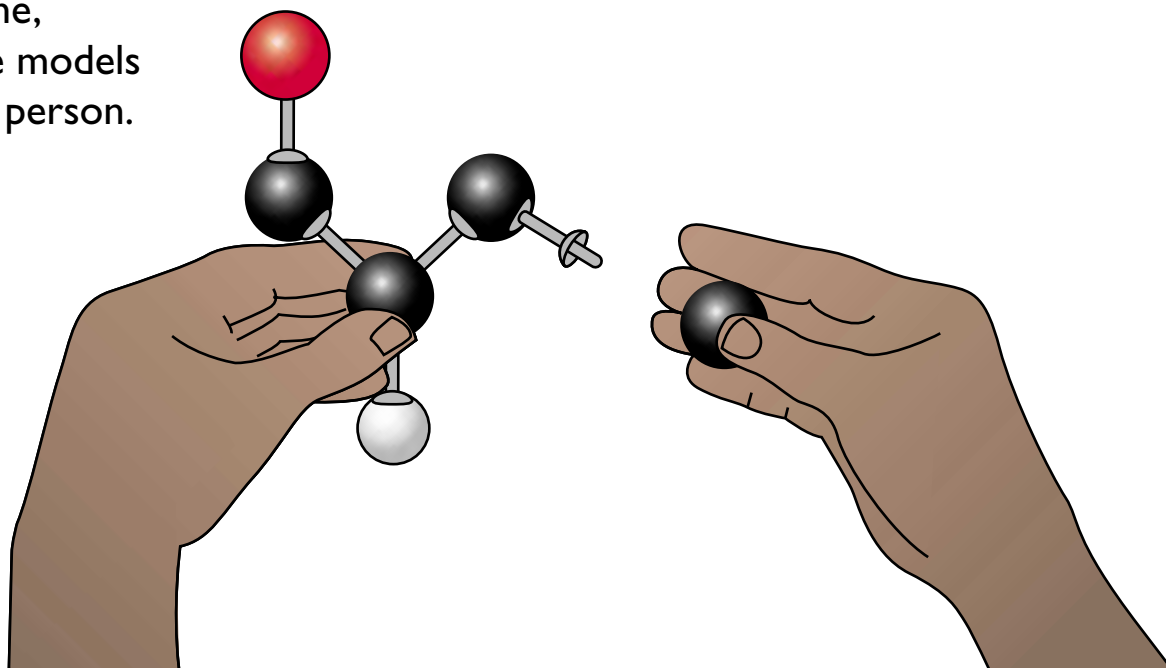
Smell molecules have different shapes so they fit into different molecules in your nose ...



... and your brain senses different smells.



When you are done,
pull your molecule models
apart for the next person.



At another table you can smell real
molecules in herbs and spices.

