

● All living things are made up of four classes of large biological molecules: carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids ● Macromolecules are large molecules composed of thousands of covalently connected atoms ● Molecular structure and function are inseparable Macromolecules are polymers, built from monomers ● A polymer is a long molecule consisting of many similar building blocks ● These small building-block molecules are called monomers ● Three of the four classes of life's organic molecules are polymers – Carbohydrates – Proteins – Nucleic acids