

Activity

The Activity category reflects time-dependent processes that are the result of life's exchange of matter and energy with the environment. This is manifested in measurable, time-dependent chemical and physical phenomena (e.g., movement of an object). In addition, biological systems can efficiently catalyze specific chemical reactions at rates significantly higher than abiotic processes, and the activity of biological systems can be modulated by environmental factors in ways that are predictable (e.g., seasonal changes), or within well-defined margins (e.g., temperature ranges). The boundaries of the Activity category may appear ambiguous since biological activity can be manifested in the form of chemical compounds or structural features. This category encompasses changes that a substance or structure undergoes over time, but not the substance (Chemistry category) or structure (Structure category) itself.