



Glossary

chemical energy - the potential energy stored in chemical bonds, or the kinetic energy that results from a chemical reaction.

energy - the capacity to do work.

endothermic reaction - a reaction in which energy is transferred into a system from its environment.

exothermic reaction - a reaction in which energy is transferred from a system to its environment.

fission reaction - a nuclear chain reaction wherein a neutron hits the nucleus of an atom, resulting in smaller nuclei that hit the nuclei of other atoms.

kinetic energy - energy possessed by an object due to its motion.

mechanical energy - the sum of the kinetic and potential energy of a system.

neutron - a subatomic particle with no charge.

neutron energy - kinetic energy of a neutron, measured in electron volts.

nuclear energy - kinetic energy resulting from nuclear fusion or nuclear fission.

nucleus - the center of an atom, made up of protons and neutrons.

potential energy - the stored energy that an object possesses because of its position with respect to other objects.