

photosynthesis

A metabolic process involving plants and some types of bacteria (e.g. Chromataceae, Rhodospirillaceae, Chlorobiaceae) in which light energy absorbed by chlorophyll and other photosynthetic pigments results in the reduction of CO₂ followed by the formation of organic compounds. In plants the overall process involves the conversion of CO₂ and H₂O to carbohydrates (and other plant material) and the release of O₂.

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