

ACTIVITY: When is a reaction balanced?

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Study the equation below. The black atoms are carbon (C), and the red atoms are oxygen (O). They will not always necessarily be this colour - this is just a representation.
2. Answer the questions that follow.



QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of representation is this: macroscopic, submicroscopic or symbolic?

2. Write a symbolic representation (a chemical equation) for the above reaction.

3. Write the formulae for the reactants of this reaction.

4. Write the formula for the product of the reaction.

5. Count how many C atoms are on the left side of the reaction. How many on the right?

6. Count how many O atoms are on the left side of the reaction. How many on the right?

7. Is the reaction balanced? Why do you say so?

