**Acids and Bases in Nature**

In nature, common examples of acids include the citric acid found in citrus fruits like lemons and oranges, while bases can be found in substances like baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) and the calcium hydroxide present in limestone and seashells; essentially, many fruits and vegetables contain natural acids, while certain minerals and alkaline solutions in the environment can act as bases.

Examples of natural acids:

* **Citric acid:** Found in citrus fruits like lemons, limes, and oranges.
* **Malic acid:** Present in apples and grapes.
* **Tartaric acid:** Found in grapes and wine.
* **Ascorbic acid (Vitamin C):** Found in various fruits and vegetables.
* **Acetic acid:** The main component of vinegar.
* **Carbonic acid:** Present in rainwater and soda

Examples of natural bases:

* **Calcium hydroxide (slaked lime):** Found in limestone and seashells
* **Magnesium hydroxide:** Found in certain minerals
* **Sodium bicarbonate (baking soda):** A common household base
* **Ammonia:** Produced by some bacteria in the soil
* **Bicarbonate ions:** Present in seawater

Key points to remember:

* **pH scale:** Acids have a pH value below 7, while bases have a pH value above 7.
* **Function in organisms:** Acids play important roles in digestion (e.g., stomach acid) while bases help regulate blood pH.
* **Environmental impact:** Variations in soil pH can impact plant growth, and changes in water pH can affect aquatic ecosystems.