**4 Day Weekend Extra Credit Assignment:**

**Monomers** are small building blocks that can be joined together to make large molecules called **polymers**. The monomers that we learned about in Living Environment are **simple sugars**, **glucose**, and **amino acids**. The polymers that we learned about are **carbohydrates**, **starch**, and **proteins**.

In Architecture and Design class, you learned about abstract representation. Your task is to create your own abstract representation of monomers and polymers.

Choose whatever YOU want to represent a single monomer (paper clips, bottle caps, skittles, your own drawing…. get creative!)

Make sure that your polymer is **SYNTHESIZED** (built) from your monomer. You may use photos or actual objects to create something. Beneath your creation, provide a description of the monomer and the polymer. Is your monomer meant to represent a simple sugar? An amino acid? Or just the idea of a “monomer?” Is there a reason why you chose this object to represent your monomer/polymer?

**[](http://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.popcorn.org/AboutUs/PopcornPoppinMonth/FunPopcornFacts/tabid/118/Default.aspx&sa=U&ei=U98hVJ3dK87xgwSU7YKoAQ&ved=0CB4Q9QEwBA&usg=AFQjCNEi9UFtNUg4xzAR3gf74P_4fAyVsQ)EXAMPLE:**

[](http://m.wikihow.com/String-Popcorn-on-a-Christmas-Tree)Ms. Taylor

**MONOMER**  **POLYMER**

I chose a single piece of popcorn as my monomer. This piece of popcorn could be used to represent a monomer like glucose. The popcorn joined together on the string represents my polymer, and it could also be used to represent starch. Glucose is a single, simple molecule like my popcorn monomer. Starch is a large, complex molecule made from many glucose molecules joined together. Likewise, my polymer is large and was synthesized from many pieces of popcorn joined together.