

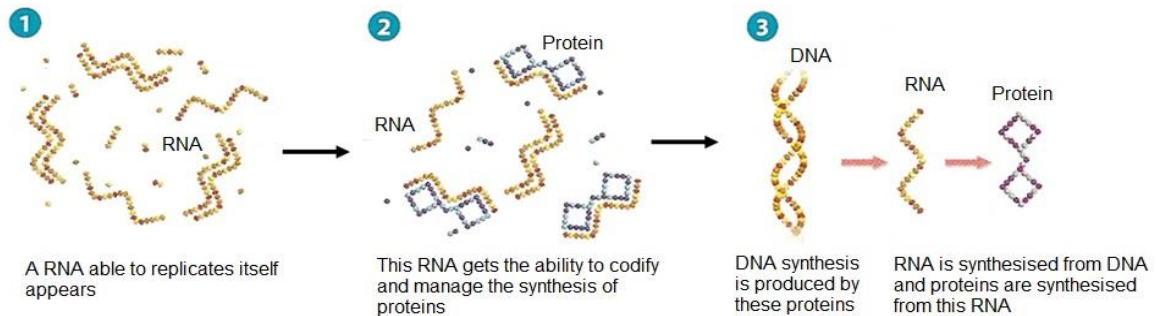
## READING ACTIVITIES (Answer key)

### 1.7. What is “the RNA world”?

This is the hypothesis that try to explain the origin of the genetic material. It was proposed by Condie and Sloan in 1998.

According to this idea, before the appearing of the protobionts, some molecules able to replicate themselves (ribozymes) appeared. They can be considered the first carriers of genetic information.

Probably the first molecule which contained genetic information was a RNA that in addition was able to replicate itself. In a posterior phase of evolution, the role to carry inheritance information passed to DNA, a more stable molecule, and the catalytic role passed to proteins (enzymes).



### 1.8. Which are the minimum building blocks to make a protobiont?

To make a protobiont we would need **lipids** to make the envelopment (membrane), **enzymes** (to make able a metabolism) and a **nucleic acid** (to contain the inheritance information)