Metalloregulatory proteins, here superimposed on the periodic table, act as metal-specific sensors that translate changes in metal ion concentration into changes in gene expression; elevations are proportional to the logarithm of the elemental abundances in the universe.

Most of these proteins mediate metal-responsive transcription by RNA polymerase (top left). See page 715. A special section on bioorganic chemistry begins on page 701; see also the Perspective on page 699. [Image: Bryson Biomedical Illustrations]
Editor's Summary