

Cells and Classification

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Glossary

bacteria (bak-TIR-ee-uh) tiny organisms made of one cell with no nucleus; singular: *bacterium* (18)

cell (SEL) the basic unit of all living things (8)

cell membrane (SEL MEM-brayn) the thin covering that surrounds and protects a cell's cytoplasm (10)

cell wall (SEL WAHL) the outer layer of a plant cell (10)

chlorophyll (KLOr-uh-fil) the green material in plant cells that takes in light energy from the Sun for use in making food (17)

chloroplast (KLOr-uh-plast) the part of a plant cell where food is made (10)

classify (KLAS-uh-fye) to group together things that are alike (14)

cytoplasm (SYE-toh-plaz-uhm) the jelly-like material that fills a cell and that holds the nucleus and other cell parts (10)

environment (en-VYE-ruhn-muhnt) all the physical things and conditions, such as soil, air, water, plants, animals, and weather, that surround a living thing (4)

extinct (ek-STINKT) no longer living as a species (22)

fossil (FOS-uhl) the preserved remains or traces of an organism that lived long ago (22)

fungus (FUHNG-uhs) an organism that absorbs food, usually from dead organisms; plural: *fungi* (18)

invertebrate (in-VUR-tuh-brit) an animal that does not have a backbone (16)

kingdom (KING-duhm) one of the six large groups of living things; animals, plants, fungi, protists, true bacteria, and ancient bacteria (14)

microscope (MYE-kruh-skohp) a tool that makes a tiny object look bigger (8)

nonvascular (non-VAS-kyuh-lur) not having tubes for moving water and food to the parts of a plant (17)

nucleus (NOO-klee-uhs) the part of a cell that controls the cell's activities (10)

organ (OR-guhn) a group of tissues that work together to do a job (9)

organism (OR-guh-niz-uhm) a living thing, such as a plant, an animal, or a fungus (4)

organ system (OR-guhn SIS-tuhm) a group of organs that work together to do a job for an organism (9)

phylum (FYE-luhm) the level of classification of living things below kingdom; plural: *phyla* (19)

protist (PROH-tist) a tiny organism, most of which are made of one cell with a nucleus (18)

reproduce (ree-pruh-DOOS) to make more of one's own kind (5)

species (SPEE-sheez) a group made up of all the living things of the same kind (19)

tissue (TISH-oo) a group of the same kind of cells that work together to do a job (9)

trait (TRAYT) a feature that can be used to classify an organism (14)

vascular (VAS-kyuh-lur) having tubes that move water and food to the parts of a plant (17)

vertebrate (VUR-tuh-brit) an animal that has a backbone (16)