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Overview: The Fundamental Units of Life

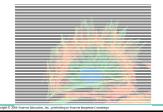
- All organisms are made of cells
- The cell is the simplest collection of matter that can live
- Cell structure is correlated to cellular function
- All cells are related by their descent from earlier cells

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Concept 6.1: To study cells, biologists use microscopes and the tools of biochemistry

 Though usually too small to be seen by the unaided eye, cells can be complex



	Prokaryotes	Eukaryotes
Includes what?		
# cells		
Location of DNA		
# of chromosomes		
Has membrane-bound organelle?		
Contains ribosomes?		
Is surrounded by a plasma membrane?		
Has a cell wall?		
Size range		

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Prokaryotic vs. Eukaryotic cells

The basic unit of every organism is either prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells

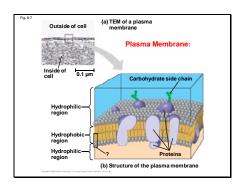
Prokaryotes include Bacteria and Archaea
Eukaryotes include Protists, Fungi, Animals and Plants

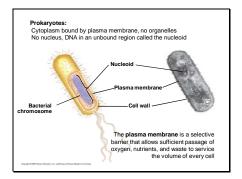
Basic features of all cells

Semifluid substance called cytosol

Double-stranded DNA, RNA and proteins

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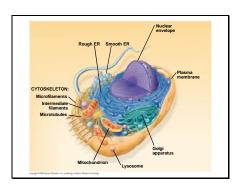




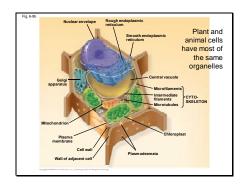
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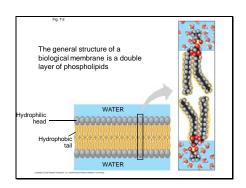
- Eukaryotic cells are generally much larger than prokaryotic cells
- Eukaryotic cells are also characterized by having stuff prokaryotes don't have:
 - Membrane-bound organelles
 - Cytoskeleton
 - Compartmentalized function

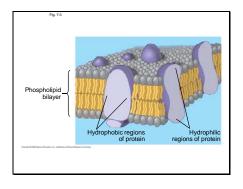
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How does the cell get all of these hydrophobic molecules to their appropriate locations –

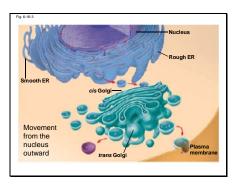
right through the middle of an aqueous environment?!

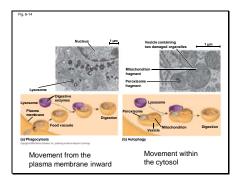
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The endomembrane system allows containment and movement of hydrophobic and dangerous materials

- Components of the endomembrane system:
 - Nuclear envelope
 - Endoplasmic reticulum
 - Golgi apparatus
 - Lysosomes
 - Vacuoles
 - Plasma membrane
- These components can be bridged by vesicles

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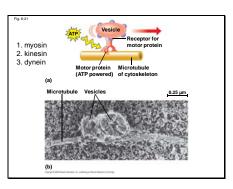
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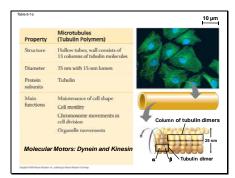
How do we move stuff around in eukaryotic cells?

- The **cytoskeleton** is a network of fibers extending throughout the cytoplasm
- It interacts with **motor proteins** to produce motility
- Inside the cell, vesicles can travel along "monorails" provided by the cytoskeleton

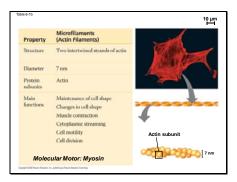
(The cytoskeleton also does other stuff: giving support to the cell, anchoring cell parts and attaching cells to their extracellular environment, among others....)

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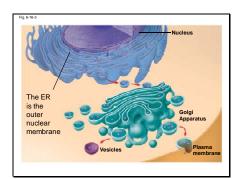
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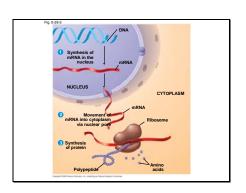
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Outward Flow

- The Nucleus-Endoplasmic Reticulum Complex builds complex membranes and prepares material for secretion
- The Golgi Apparatus modifies those membrane components and materials into their finished form
- Membrane-bound Vesicles allow transport between organelles and Plasma Membrane



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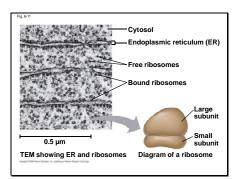
Ribosomes: Protein Factories

- Ribosomes are particles made of ribosomal RNA and protein
- Ribosomes carry out protein synthesis for two purposes:
 - Free ribosomes make cytosolic proteins

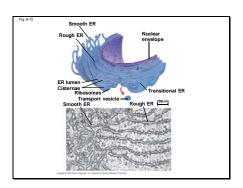
Can you name some? _

 Bound ribosomes make proteins for the endomembrane system and secretion

Can you name some? _



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Functions of the ER

The ER is a membrane factory for the cell

- Synthesizes lipids
- Synthesizes endomembrane and secreted proteins
- Puts them together in a "first draft" and makes vesicles
- It also: Metabolizes carbohydrates

Detoxifies poison

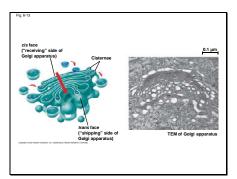
Stores calcium

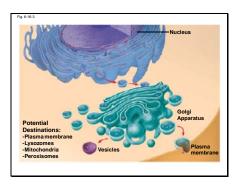
Functions of the Golgi Apparatus

- The Golgi apparatus creates the "final draft"
 - Modifies products of the ER
 - Manufactures certain macromolecules
 - Sorts and packages materials into transport vesicles

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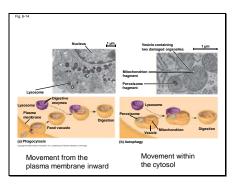


Inward and Internal Flow

- Some types of cell can engulf another cell by phagocytosis; this forms a food vacuole
- A lysosome fuses with the food vacuole and digests the molecules
- Lysosomes also use enzymes to recycle the cell's own organelles and macromolecules, a process called autophagy

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- **lysosome** is a membranous sac of hydrolytic enzymes that can digest macromolecules
- Lysosomal enzymes can hydrolyze proteins, fats, polysaccharides, and nucleic acids

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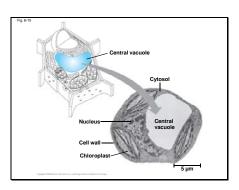
Three More Important Membrane Compartments

1. Vacuoles: Diverse Maintenance Compartments

- A plant cell or fungal cell may have one or several vacuoles
- Food vacuoles are formed by phagocytosis
- Contractile vacuoles, found in many freshwater protists, number excess water out of cells.
- Central vacuoles, found in many mature plant cells, hold organic compounds and water

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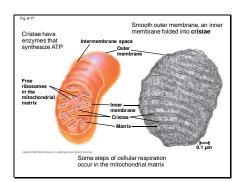
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2. Mitochondria and chloroplasts

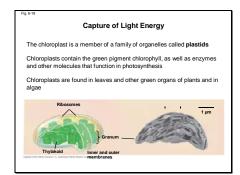
- Mitochondria are the sites of cellular respiration, a metabolic process that generates ATP
- Chloroplasts, found in plants and algae, are the sites of photosynthesis

Mitochondria and chloroplasts

- Are partially separate from the endomembrane system
- Have a double membrane
- Have proteins made by free ribosomes
- Contain their own DNA



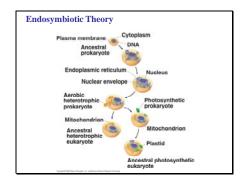
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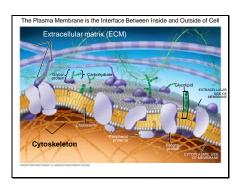
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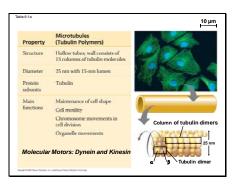
3. Peroxisomes: Oxidation

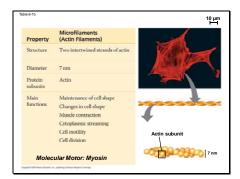
- Peroxisomes are specialized metabolic compartments bounded by a single membrane
- Peroxisomes produce hydrogen peroxide and convert it to water
- Oxygen is used to break down different types of molecules
- What do you know about singlet oxygen?



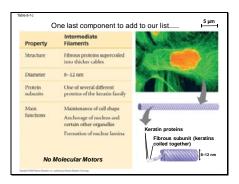
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Intermediate Filaments form the Underlying Structure for the Rest of the Cytoskeleton

- Intermediate filaments are more permanent than microtubules and microfilaments
- They surround the nucleus and extend to all parts of the cell
- They provide long-term support for cell shape and fix organelles in place
- They provide tracks for moving microtubules and microfilaments around
- A second set of intermediate filaments do the same things for the inside of the nucleus

Microtubule-organizing centers allow "pointand-shoot" repositioning of microtubules

A. Centrosomes and Centrioles

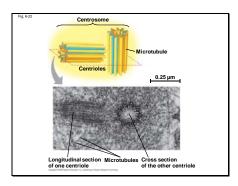
- In many cells, microtubules grow out from a **centrosome** near the nucleus
- In animal cells, the centrosome has a pair of centrioles, each with nine triplets of microtubules arranged in a ring

. B. Basal Bodies

- anchors cilium and flagellum
- dynein, which drives the bending movements of a cilium or flagellum

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The Steps to Long-Distance Transport in the Cell

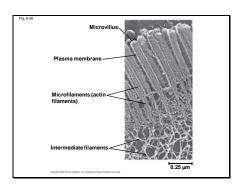
- 1. Break down the old microtubules
- 2. Move the centriole where you need it, "point"
- 3. Build new microtubules towards a new destination, "shoot"
- 4. Use molecular motors to send material to that destination

Microfilaments Have Lots of Jobs To Do (and some pretty fancy names....)

- Actin tracks use myosin motors to move materials short distances inside the cell
- Stress fibers bear tension, resist pulling forces
- The cortex just inside the plasma membrane supports the cell's shape
- Actin bundles make up the core of microvilli
- Actin treadmills form the basis for cell migration
- Thin filaments work with myosin to contract muscle cells
- Purse strings of actin separate the daughter cells during cell division

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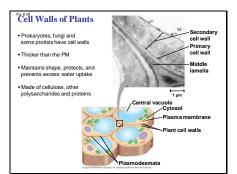
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Cells Use the Area Outside Their Plasma Membranes to Build Protections and Connections to Other Cells

- Most cells synthesize and secrete materials that are external to the plasma membrane
- These extracellular structures include:
 - Cell walls of plants
 - The extracellular matrix (ECM) of animal cells
 - Intercellular junctions

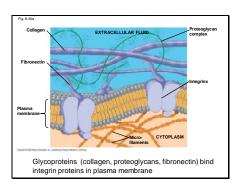


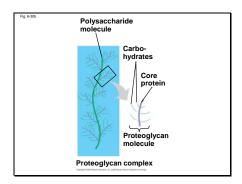
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The Extracellular Matrix (ECM) of Animal Cells

- Animal cells lack cell walls but are covered by an elaborate extracellular matrix (ECM)
- Functions of the ECM:
 - Support
 - Adhesion
 - Movement
 - Regulation

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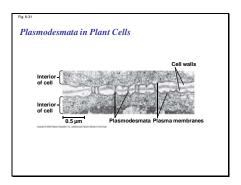


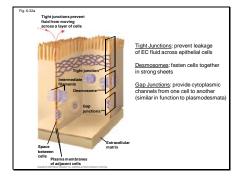
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Intercellular Junctions

- Neighboring cells in tissues, organs, or organ systems often adhere, interact, and communicate through direct physical contact
- Intercellular junctions facilitate this contact
- There are several types of intercellular junctions
 - Plasmodesmata
 - Tight junctions
 - Desmosomes
 - Gap junctions

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You should now be able to:

- 1. Distinguish between the following pairs of terms: prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell; free and bound ribosomes; smooth and rough ER
- 2. Describe the structure and function of the components of the endomembrane system
- 3. Briefly explain the role of mitochondria, chloroplasts, and peroxisomes
- 4. Describe the functions of the cytoskeleton

- 5. Compare the structure and functions of microtubules, microfilaments, and intermediate filaments
- 6. Explain how the ultrastructure of cilia and flagella relate to their functions
- 7. Describe the structure of a plant cell wall
- 8. Describe the structure and roles of the extracellular matrix in animal cells
- 9. Describe four different intercellular junctions
