

All About Cells

Learning Guide



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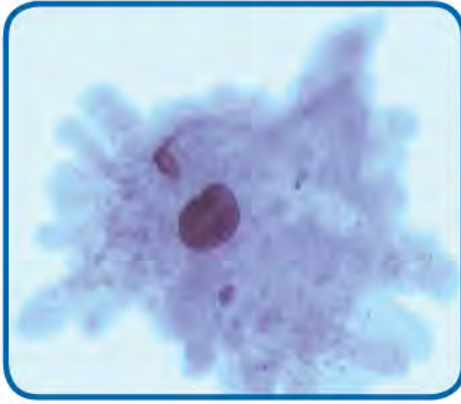
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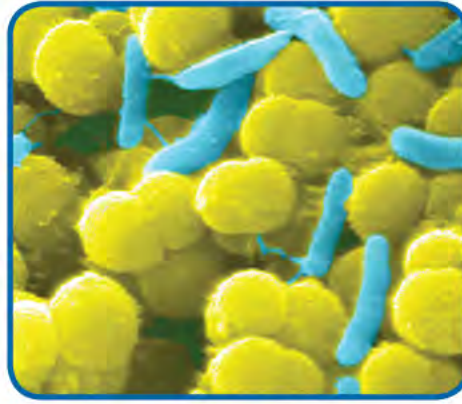
DISCOVERING CELLS

What Is a Cell?

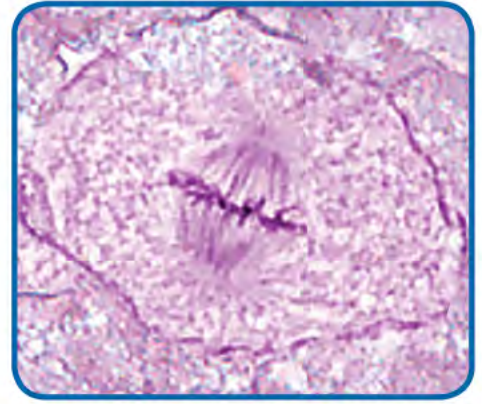
The **cell** is the basic **building block** of all living organisms. It is the **smallest unit** of an organism that can carry out the functions of life.



amoeba



bacteria



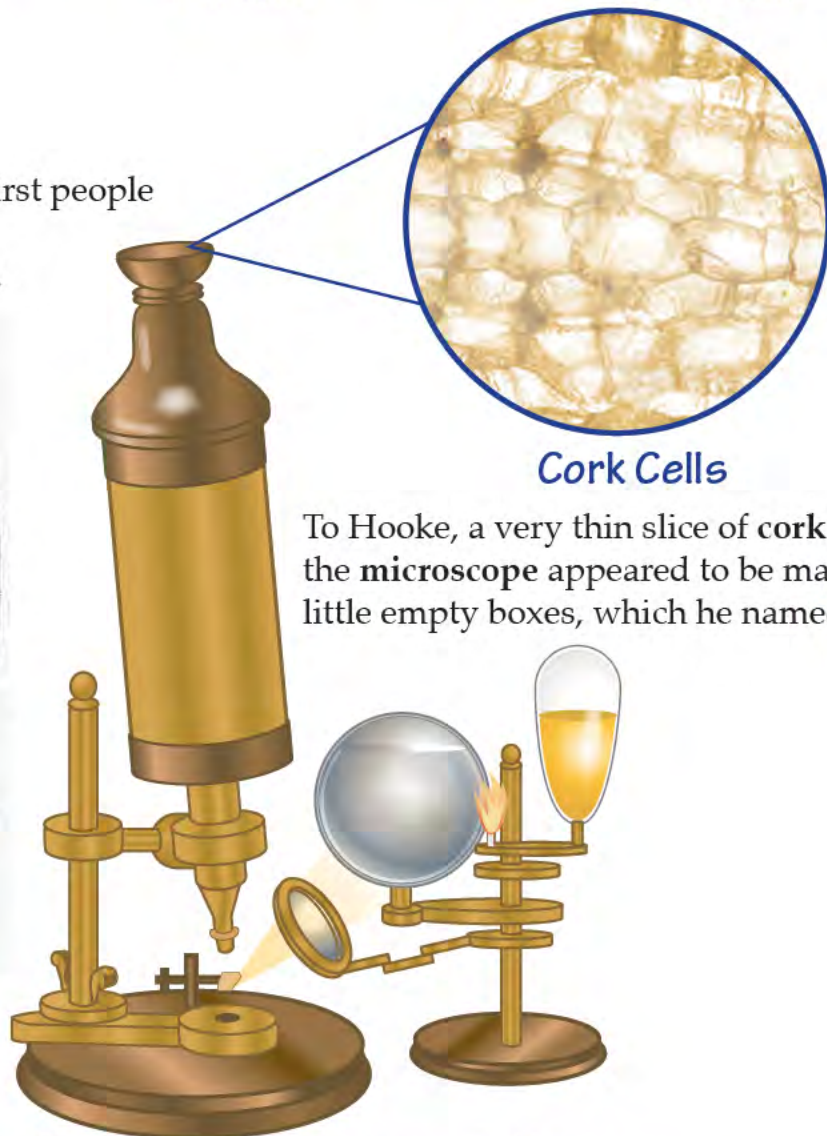
mitotic animal cell

Robert Hooke

Robert Hooke was one of the first people to observe cells using his own **compound microscope** in 1663.



Image drawn by Hooke,
1665



Cork Cells

To Hooke, a very thin slice of **cork** under the **microscope** appeared to be made up of little empty boxes, which he named **cells**.

ANIMAL CELL ORGANELLES

The structures within the **cell** are known as **organelles** which carry out **specific functions**.

The **nucleus** is the **control center** of the cell. It houses the **nucleolus** and genetic material (**chromatin**) used for directing cell functions.

