

UNIT 2

- 1 The special characteristics of the Earth
- 2 The differences between living and non-living things
- 3 Cells
- 4 The vital functions of living things
- 5 The classification of living things
- 6 The classification of living things: the five kingdoms
- 7 Biodiversity

REVISION ACTIVITIES

SCIENCE PRACTICAL

Observing eukaryotic cells

WORK ON YOUR KEY COMPETENCES **LS**

Different types of cells

How is it possible that living things, such as bacteria, mushrooms or people, are very different, but are made up of the same units, cells?

Because living things are very different, it's logical to think that their cells are also very different.

To show that this isn't the case, in this task you'll investigate the similarities and differences between prokaryotic cells, eukaryotic plant cells and eukaryotic animal cells.

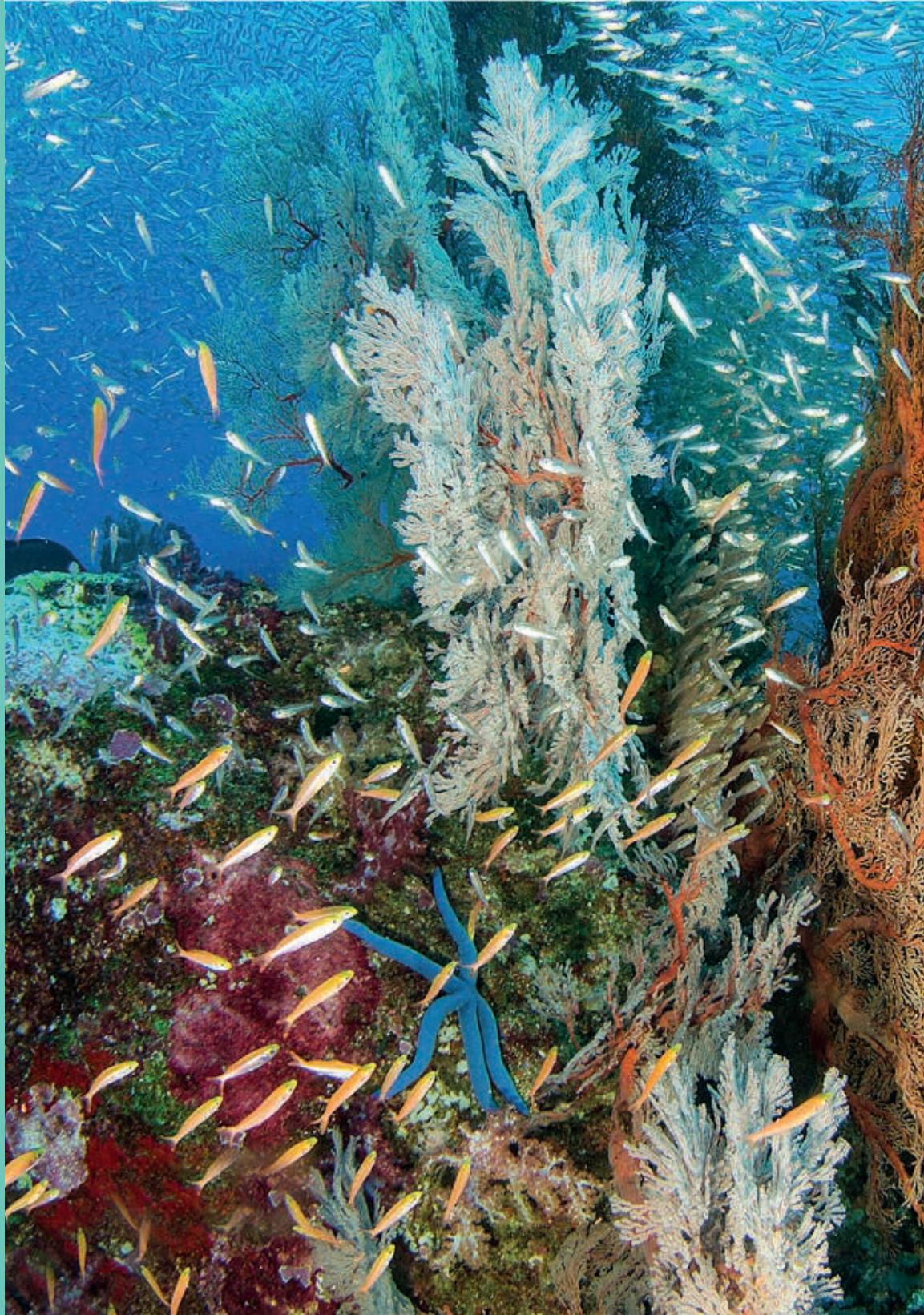
To present your results, you'll make a poster showing the different types of cells and their characteristics.

OXFORD INVESTIGATION

Go to your GENiOX Desktop.



The cell and the classification of living things



Think and discuss



- 1 What does the title of the article make you think about?
- 2 The text mentions an action that fulfils Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 14 and 15. What are they?
- 3 What does the word *biodiversity* mean?
- 4 What does the word *conservationist* mean?
- 5 Are biological reserves the solution to loss of biodiversity?
- 6 Discuss how you, as students in ESO 1, could contribute to conserving biodiversity.



A marine reserve to fight the loss of biodiversity

Panama has taken a great step towards protecting its seas. This Central American country, rich in biodiversity, but threatened by climate change, has created a marine reserve in the Pacific Ocean. The reserve covers 67 742 km², which is almost the same size as the land mass of the country.

This protected area includes nine submerged mountain ranges, with underwater mountains that are sometimes over 3 000 m high. The zone is a feeding and breeding ground for sea turtles, marlins (or sailfish), sharks and whales, including species that are vulnerable or in danger of extinction.

The reserve is in the Cordillera de Coiba, which is a large area, rich in resources for fishing and also an important place for marine species to find food. Panama is one of the countries that is most affected by climate change, and by creating this reserve they fulfil the protection goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which was signed by 196 countries to conserve and promote the sustainable use of marine resources. Together with the neighbouring reserves in Colombia, the protected area is 121 341 km², making it the third largest marine reserve in the tropical Pacific.

Conservationists are very excited about this new reserve, created by decree last Tuesday afternoon, on World Oceans Day [...]

Protecting these areas is an investment for the future for people who live from marine resources and, indirectly, for the population of the world within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

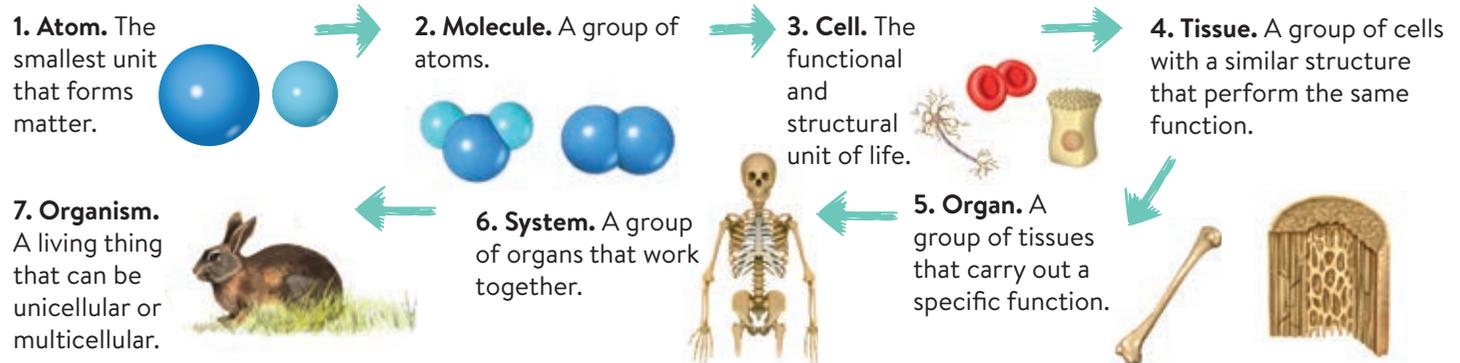
Carlos SALINAS MALDONADO *El País*, June 2021 (Adapted)



Granito de Oro Island, Coiba National Park, Panama. Nature reserves are protected spaces which are created to conserve ecosystems which have great value. This may be because of their rarity, fragility, importance or uniqueness.

2 The differences between living and non-living things

The diagram below shows levels of organisation in the structure of the matter that forms living things. Which of these levels do both living and non-living things share?

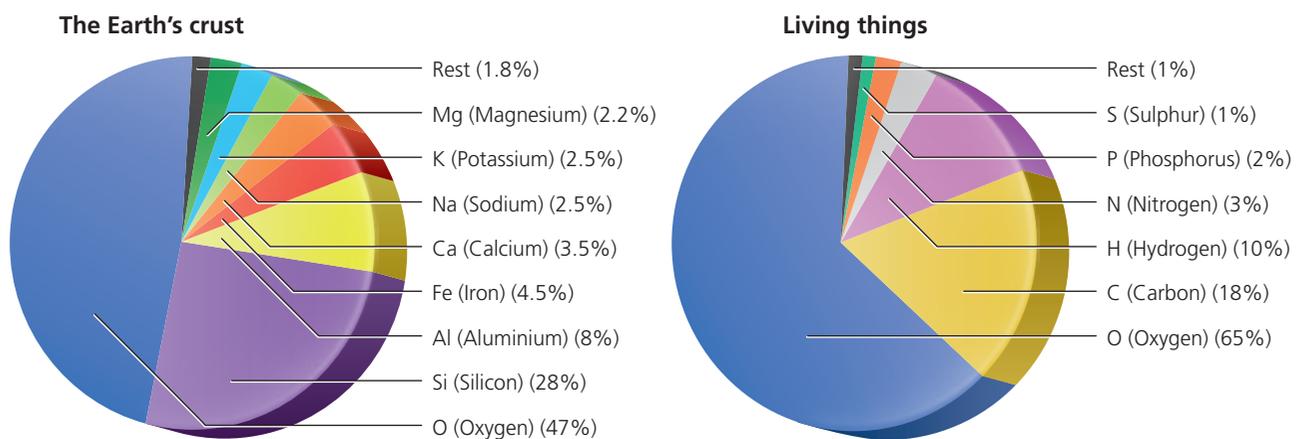


All matter in the Universe, including all living things on Earth, is made up of tiny particles called **atoms**. Atoms of the same type group together to form **chemical elements**. Chemical elements group together to form **molecules**.

There are many different living things on Earth, but they all have some characteristics in common.

- Their **chemical elements** are different from the chemical elements in non-living things. Living things have **exclusive molecules** that can't be found in non-living things.
- They are made of **cells**.
- All perform the **vital functions**: nutrition, interaction and reproduction.

2.1. Chemical elements that are only found in living things



Percentages of chemical elements that form the Earth's crust and living things.

Which is the most abundant element in both living and non-living things? Which elements are most common in living and in non-living things?

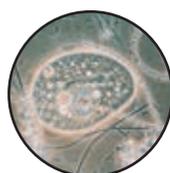
As you can see, some elements are abundant in living things, but are not so abundant in the Earth's crust. The elements that form living things are called **bioelements**.

3 Cells

Groups of organic and inorganic compounds form complex structures called **cells**. Cells are the smallest structures that can perform vital functions. Cells are the smallest living things that exist.

Cells are the structural and functional **units**¹ of living things.

Do you know how many cells we have in our body? And in a plant? And in a bacterium?



A human body that weighs approximately 70 kg and is 170 cm tall has around 30 billion cells. A plant of a similar size would have fewer cells because plant cells are bigger than animal cells. Bacteria, in contrast, are just one individual cell.

Living things can be:

- **unicellular**. Formed by a single cell. Examples of unicellular organisms can be bacteria, protozoa, certain fungi or algae.
- **multicellular**. Formed by many cells, like plants and animals. Their size varies depending on the number of cells in the organism.

3.1. Cell theory and the discovery of cells

In 1665, the scientist **Robert Hooke** described a cell for the first time. He looked at a thin layer of **cork**² with a microscope that he had made and saw repeated small polygonal structures. He named these structures *cella*, a Latin word which means 'inner chamber' or 'small room'.

Key points of cell theory

- All living things are made of cells.
- All cells come from the division of other pre-existing cells.
- Cells are the basic unit of life.

In 1838, **Matthias Schleiden** and **Theodor Schwann** proposed the idea called **cell theory**, which was later developed by other scientists.

Why can't we see cells?

Most cells are too small for us to see because they're microscopic. The unit of measurement that we use for cells is the **micrometre** (μm):

$$1 \mu\text{m} = 0.001 \text{ mm} = 0.000\,001 \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ m} = 1000 \text{ mm} = 1000\,000 \mu\text{m}$$



¹**unit**: complete, individual thing that can be a component of something bigger.

²**cork**: impermeable, floating material that comes from a tree.



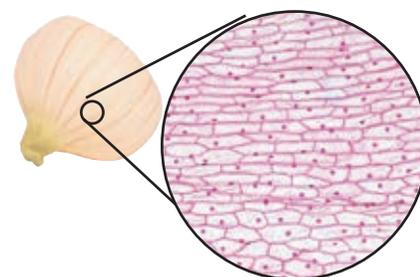
CLIL activities >>>>>>>>>>

9 Why are cells called 'the building blocks of life'? Discuss your ideas with a classmate.

10 Find information and classify the following living things as unicellular or multicellular: yeast, Staphylococcus, Ephemeroptera, Lepiota, diatom and Fucus.

11 Discuss the importance of the statements of cell theory. Have a class debate to do so and answer the following questions: *Are there living things with no cells in them? Do cells carry out vital functions? Is there a smaller level of organisation than cells that's alive?*

12 Listen to the interview about cell theory and make a list of five key ideas in your notebook. What has more cells, an animal or a plant?



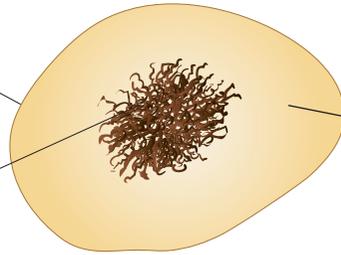
Cells in onion skin seen using an optical microscope

3.2. Cell types

All cells have the same three basic components: plasma membrane, cytoplasm and nucleic acid.

Plasma membrane. This layer surrounds the whole cell and allows the entrance and exit of substances.

Nucleic acids. They contain genetic information which is essential for the **adequate functioning of the cell.**

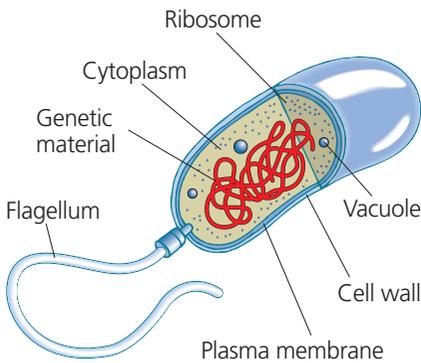


Cytoplasm. The fluid inside the cell where we find **organelles**. Organelles are specialised structures that perform **specific** cell functions. Examples of these functions are obtaining energy for the cells or storing substances.

Cells can be eukaryotic or prokaryotic depending on their internal structure.

Prokaryotic cells

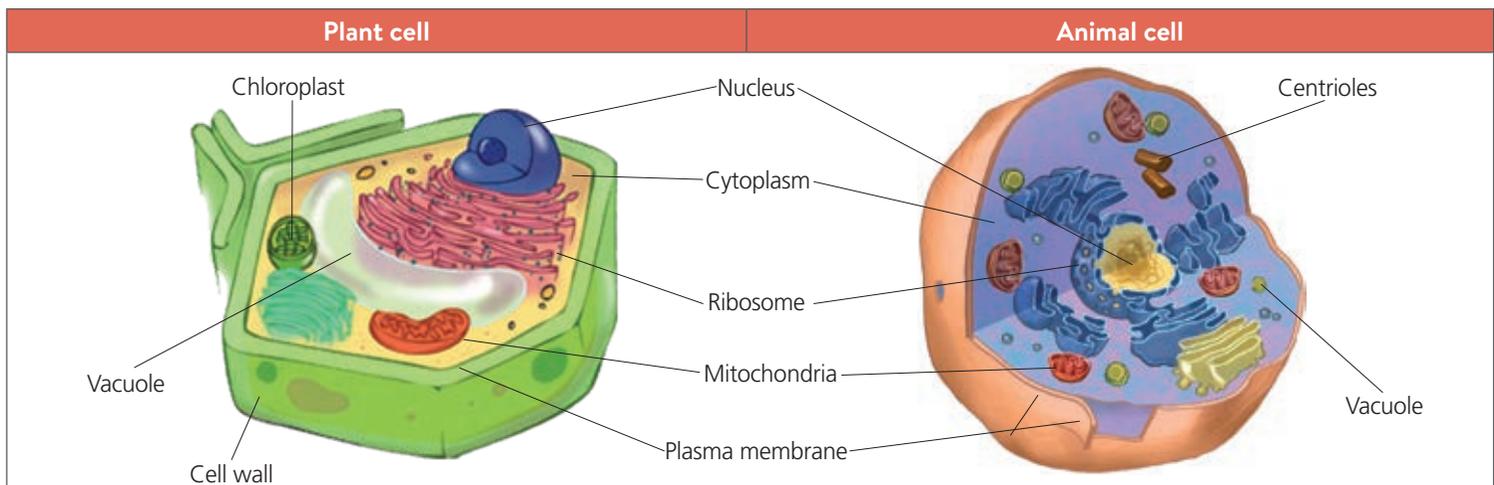
- They are between 0.5 and 10 μm in size.
- They carry genetic material (DNA) in the cytoplasm.
- A **cell wall** surrounds the plasma membrane.
- They don't have many organelles. They have ribosomes, which create proteins, and vacuoles, to store substances.
- Some have additional structures, such as a **flagellum**, to help them move.



Eukaryotic cells

- They are between 10 and 150 μm in size.
- The **cell's nucleus** contains genetic material.
- Not all of them have a cell wall around the plasma membrane.
- They have a variety of organelles.

The two main types of eukaryotic cells are **animal cells** and **plant cells**.

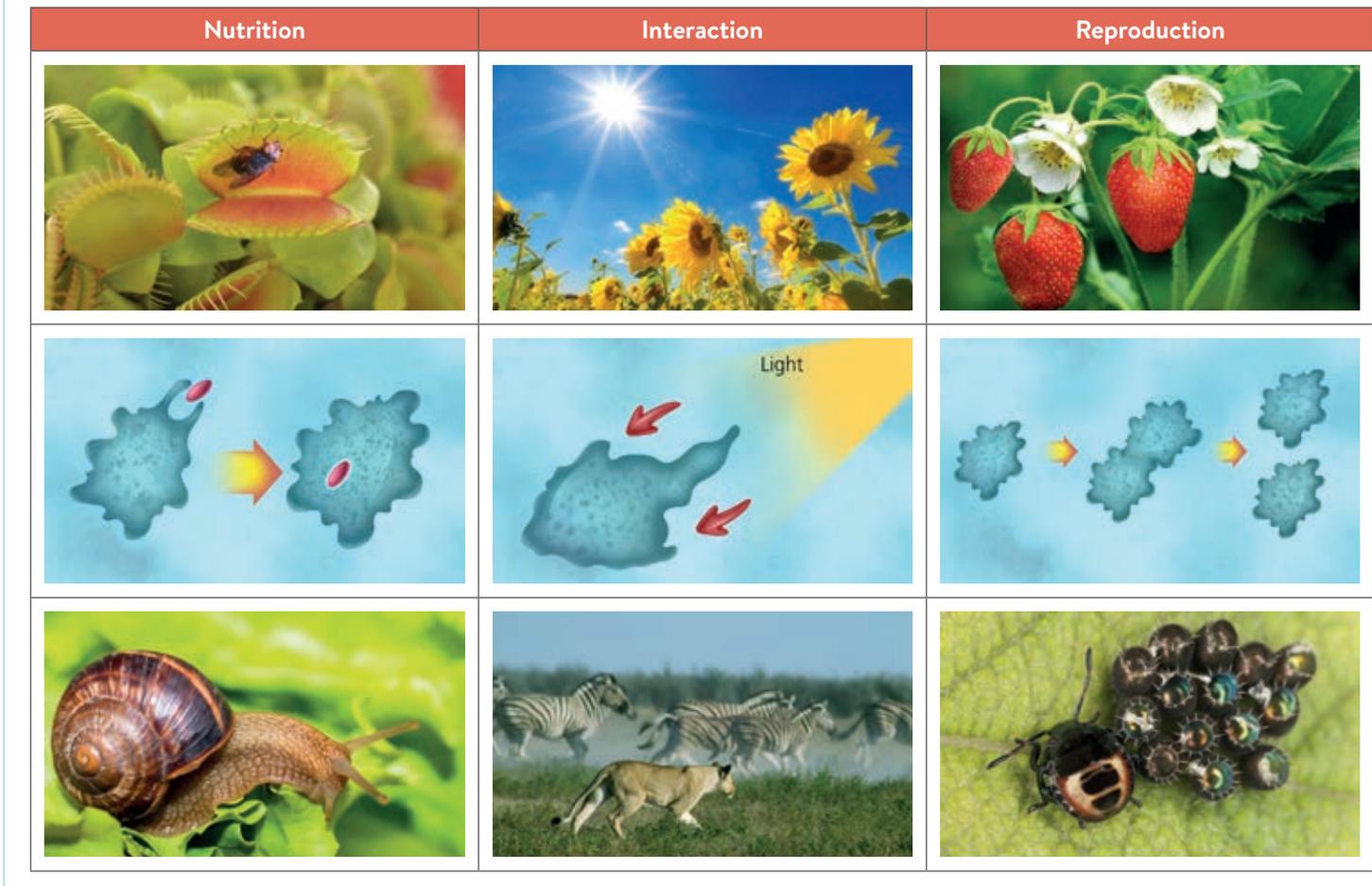


CLIL activities

- 13 **LS** Compare the structures of animal and plant cells. Which structures do plant cells have that animal cells don't and viceversa?
- 14 **🔊** Listen to the podcast. Draw a table in your notebook to write down what they say about eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells.

4 The vital functions of living things

Living things come in all shapes and sizes, but they all perform the vital functions. Do you know how plants perform the vital functions? And bacteria? What's the purpose of each vital function? You can think about vital functions of animals to help you answer the questions.



¹**perpetuate**: make something continue in the future.

²**feed on**: eat something as food regularly.

Organisms need matter and energy to live and **perpetuate**¹ their species. In order to do this, they need to interact with their environment.

Living things perform the vital functions of nutrition, interaction and reproduction.

4.1. Nutrition

The objective of nutrition is to take in **matter** to renew and maintain the organism's structures and to **produce energy** to perform the vital functions.

Depending on the matter, nutrition can be autotrophic or heterotrophic.

Autotrophic	Heterotrophic
Living things that take in inorganic matter from the environment and transform it into organic matter perform autotrophic nutrition. Examples are plants, algae and some bacteria. Autotrophic organisms are food for heterotrophic organisms.	Living things that take in organic matter from the environment are heterotrophic organisms. They feed on ² other living things or their remains. Examples are animals, fungi, protozoa and some types of bacteria.

4.2. Interaction

Living things need to **sense changes** in their environment and in their bodies so they can **respond** to them. This process is called **interaction**.

- Changes in the environment are known as **stimuli** (for example, changes in the amount of sunlight or temperature or the presence of chemical substances). Stimuli are perceived by **receptors** (for example, sense organs in animals and some specialised cells in plants).
- Living things process stimuli and produce responses from **single cells** or from **complex coordination systems** such as the nervous system in animals.
- **Effectors** are complex structures that execute responses to stimuli. Muscles, for example, generate movement and glands secrete chemical substances and eliminate toxins.

¹**offspring**: young of an animal or plant

²**split**: divide into separate parts

4.3. Reproduction

Reproduction is the creation of **offspring**¹. Offspring guarantee the survival of the species.

There are three types of reproduction:

Asexual	Sexual
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single individual generates multiple identical descendants. • Unicellular organisms and some multicellular ones reproduce this way. <p>There are three main types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binary fission. One cell splits² into two cells of a similar size.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gemmation. One cell splits into two cells of different sizes.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporulation. The nucleus of a cell divides multiple times, creating lots of cells. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It requires the reproductive cells (gametes) of two individuals (male and female) to join together. • Multicellular organisms perform sexual reproduction. • It takes longer than asexual reproduction. • Descendants are not identical to their parents.
Combination of sexual and asexual	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some species can reproduce both sexually and asexually during their life cycles. Examples of these organisms are mosses, ferns and jellyfish. 	

CLIL activities

- 22**  Explain to a classmate what the vital functions are and why they are important.

23 What is the difference between autotrophic and heterotrophic nutrition? What is the relationship between organisms that perform autotrophic and heterotrophic nutrition?

24  When you touch a hot pan accidentally, you remove it immediately. Identify the stimulus, the response to it and the body structures involved.

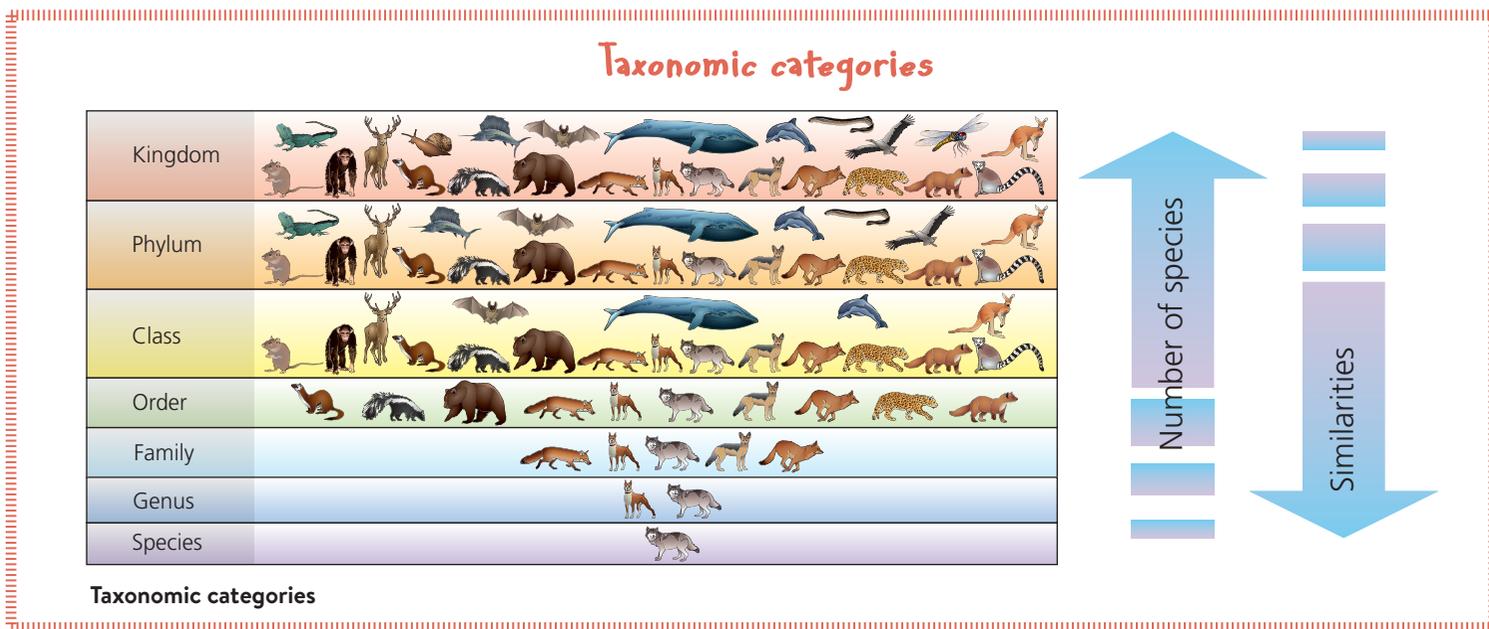
25  Find two main differences between sexual and asexual reproduction. Discuss the differences with a classmate.

26  In groups of three, choose a living thing and give a short presentation about its vital functions.

27  Listen to the reporter. Summarise the difference between sense organs and effector organs in one sentence.

Taxonomy is the science of **classifying** living things according to **natural criteria**. It classifies living things into groups of organisms that have shared characteristics.

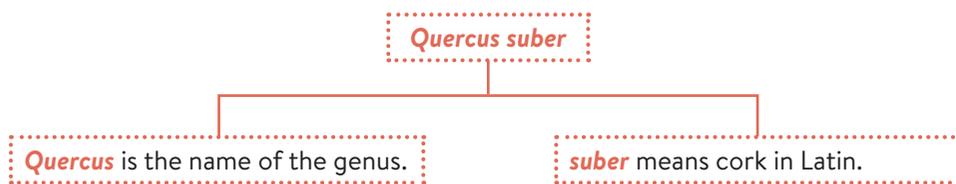
Each group of living things, or taxon, is assigned to a **taxonomic category**. The most basic category is the species.



A **species** is a group of individuals that have many common characteristics and can reproduce and have **fertile**¹ offspring.

To name species we use the system of **binomial nomenclature**, invented by **Carl Linnaeus** in 1753. Each species has a name with two Latin words written in italics. The first word is the genus. The second word describes a specific characteristic of the species.

For example, the binominal nomenclature of a cork oak is:



¹**fertile**: able to reproduce.

²**dichotomous key**: sets of pairs of short, objective, discriminatory descriptions that allow the identification of a species.

CLIL activities

30 Complete the following **dichotomous key**² in your notebook to classify a fish, a bear, a bird and a bat.

1. It has fins.
It's a ...
It doesn't have fins. Go to 2.
2. It has a beak.
It's a ...
It doesn't have a beak. Go to 3.
3. It can fly.
It's a ...
It can't fly. It's a ...

31 Research and classify a dog and a holm oak. Start with the kingdom and finish with the species.

32 Can a genus include members of different families or members of different species?

33 In groups, write a series of questions using the taxonomic categories table. Then do a class quiz.

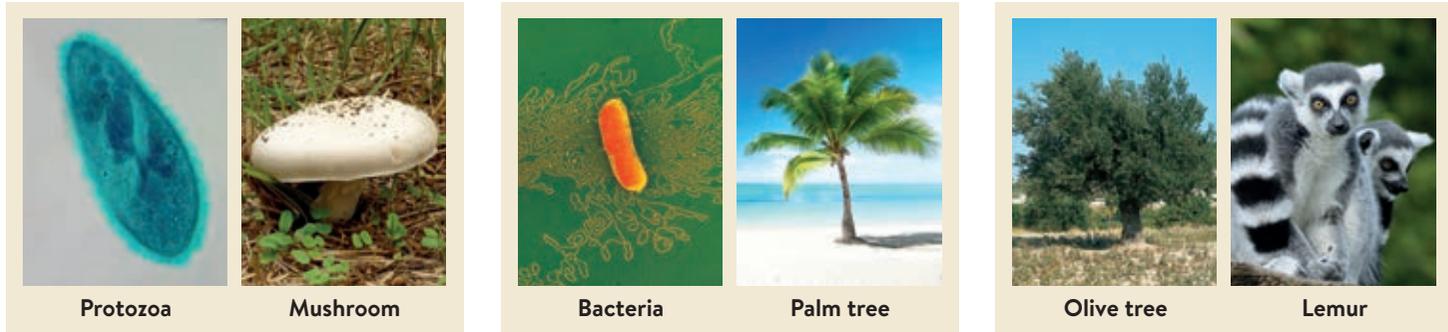
Explain how ...

Why do ...?

What's the difference between ...?

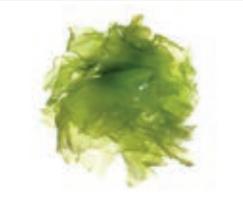
6 The classification of living things: the five kingdoms

Imagine you're a biologist. What are the biggest differences between the pairs of living things in the photos? Would you be able to identify groups of living things that share the characteristics you've described?



In 1969, **Robert H. Whittaker** proposed five kingdoms based on three criteria: type of cell, number of cells and type of nutrition.

Then, in 1985, **Lynn Margulis** improved the classification and gave names to the five kingdoms.

Kingdom	Monera	Protocista	Fungi	Plant	Animal
Example					
Type of cell	Prokaryotic	Eukaryotic	Eukaryotic	Eukaryotic	Eukaryotic
Cell organisation	Unicellular	Unicellular or multicellular	Unicellular or multicellular	Multicellular	Multicellular
Tissues	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Type of nutrition	Autotrophic or heterotrophic	Autotrophic or heterotrophic	Heterotrophic	Autotrophic	Heterotrophic
Living things	Bacteria	Protozoa and algae	Yeasts, moulds and fungi	Hepaticae, mosses, ferns and spermatophytes	Invertebrates and vertebrates

In 1990, **Carl Woese** suggested a new category to go above the kingdom: the **domain**. There are three domains: *Archaea*, *Bacteria* and *Eukarya*.

CLIL activities

34 In your notebook, identify the kingdoms these living things belong to: porcupine, oak, shiitake mushroom, streptococcus and green algae.

35 Which kingdoms have both tissue and eukaryotic cells?

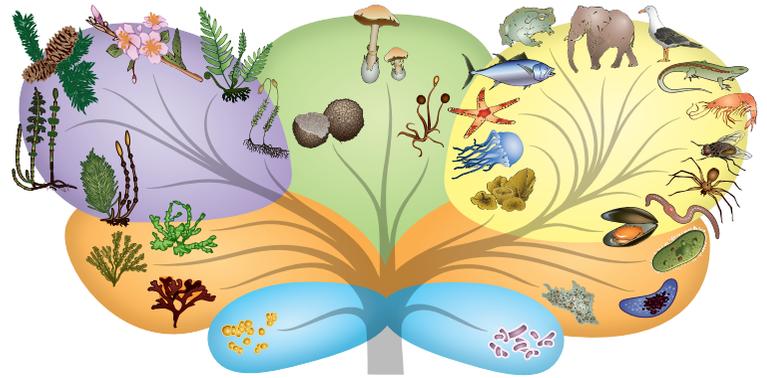
36  Listen to the students make statements about the five kingdoms and write *true* or *false* in your notebook. Correct the false statements.

7 Biodiversity

Did you know that scientists have described 1.75 million species of living things? Did you know that the total estimated number of species is 50 million? How is it possible that so many species of living things have originated from a single organism?

All living things come from the first cell that existed. This cell is the base of the 'tree of life'. The branches of the tree are made up of the descendants of that original single cell. They reproduced and multiplied as they changed over millions of years. Those changes allowed some individuals to adapt better to their environment and to survive and reproduce.

This process, which is called **biological evolution**, continues to take place today. It's this process which has allowed millions of different species of living things to exist on the Earth.



The 'tree of life'. Where would you be?

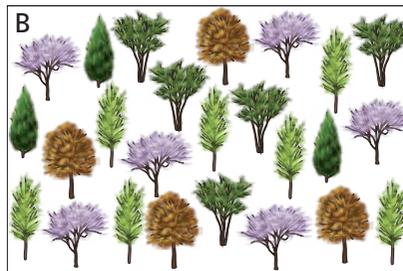
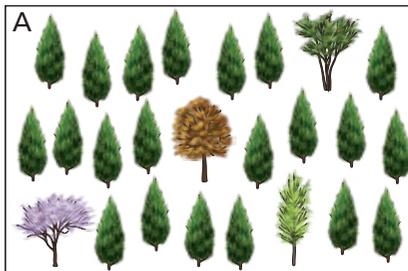
The variety of different living things on the Earth is called **biodiversity**. It includes the variety of individuals within a species, as well as of species and ecosystems.

Preserving biodiversity is essential for several reasons:

- Living things provide us with a great variety of materials, food and medicines. Some also maintain the quality of water and soil.
- The extinction of one species affects all the other species that interact with it. If habitats are damaged or destroyed, the living things that live there are also affected.

CLILactivities

- 37  Our planet's current deforestation rate is equal to the size of 20 football fields disappearing every minute. One football field is 5000 m². Calculate how many square metres of forest disappear:
- in one day.
 - in one week.
- 38 The biodiversity of an ecosystem is not exactly equal to the number of species that live in it; we must also consider how abundant the species are, which means finding out the total number of individuals of each species. Which of the two ecosystems would you say has a greater biodiversity, A or B? Give reasons for your answer.



- 39  In groups, discuss how humans can have a negative effect on biodiversity. Give examples and share your ideas with the class.
- 40 Why is it important to preserve biodiversity? In your notebook, give examples of the effects of the disappearance of a species.

preserve: protect, keep something in its original state.

Revision activities

The special characteristics of the Earth

- 41 Explain why these statements are true or false.
- The presence of water is essential for life.
 - The atmosphere is not essential for life to exist.
 - If the axis of rotation of our planet was perpendicular instead of tilted, we would still have the same amount of species on our planet.
- 42  The table below shows the percentages of three gases in the atmosphere of different planets:

Planet	Carbon dioxide	Nitrogen	Oxygen
Venus	96%	3%	0%
Earth	0.036%	78%	21%
Mars	95%	3%	0%

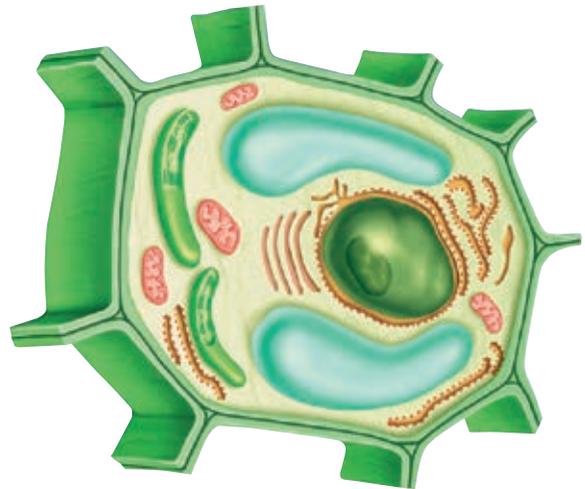
- What are the main differences in the composition of the atmosphere of Venus, Earth and Mars?
- Do you think there's a link between the composition of the atmosphere and the presence of life? Explain your answer.

Differences between living and non-living things

- 43 Identify three characteristics that differentiate a rock and an organism.
- 44 Define *atom*, *molecule* and *organism*. Are levels of organisation exclusive to living things? Give reasons for your answer.
- 45   A doctor visited an ESO 1 class to talk about the importance of a good diet for the proper functioning of our cells. She said that we need to eat foods rich in some bioelements to avoid suffering from certain diseases. For example, eating nuts such as hazelnuts, walnuts or pistachios, certain lean red meats (veal), liver, and black pudding, helps to prevent anaemia.
- What is anaemia?
 - What bioelement do each of the foods mentioned have?
 - Which important function do those particular bioelements perform in our body?
- 46 Which biomolecule stores the essential information needed for a cell to function? Which one performs an energy function?

The cell

- 47 Write the function performed by the following cell structures:
- nucleus.
 - plasma membrane.
 - chloroplast.
 - mitochondria.
- 48 Explain what cell specialisation is, which organisms have it and its advantages.
- 49  Copy the following diagram in your notebook and answer the questions.



- Say what type of cell it is and locate and label the following cell structures: cytoplasm, mitochondria, nucleus, plasma membrane, cell wall, vacuole and chloroplast.
- Which of the structures are found in all cells?
- Which structures are found in animal eukaryotic cells but are not in this diagram?
- Explain why this cell is larger or smaller than a bacterium?

The life processes of living things

- 50   The PE teacher has asked pupils in ESO 1 to run with a partner for 10 minutes. One student fainted after 5 minutes, but his partner continued and had no problems. The boy that fainted didn't have breakfast but the girl that finished did.
- What's the relationship between eating breakfast and physical activity?
 - Which vital function is related to this?

- 51 Make a table and show if these concepts relate to autotrophic or heterotrophic nutrition, or both: *it's carried out by plants, they take organic matter from the environment, protozoa do this, they produce organic matter, they take inorganic matter from the environment, it's carried out by some bacteria, it's performed by animals.*
- 52 Identify the vital function that relates to the following examples:
- A zebra escapes when it senses the presence of a lion.
 - A sunflower turns towards the Sun.
 - A bird incubates its eggs in a nest.
 - Adding humus to a plant helps the plant grow.
 - The pollen of some plants is transported by the wind.

- 53  A colony of bacteria is growing in a lab. Each bacteria can split into two every 30 minutes, thanks to the process of binary fission. If there were 4000 bacteria to start with, how many would we have after 1 hour?

- 54   In a biology class, students have watched a documentary about the enormous amount of plastic in our seas and oceans. In the documentary, there were images of dead sea animals that had their stomachs full of plastics.
- Why did those animals die?
 - How do plastics affect living things?

The classification of living things

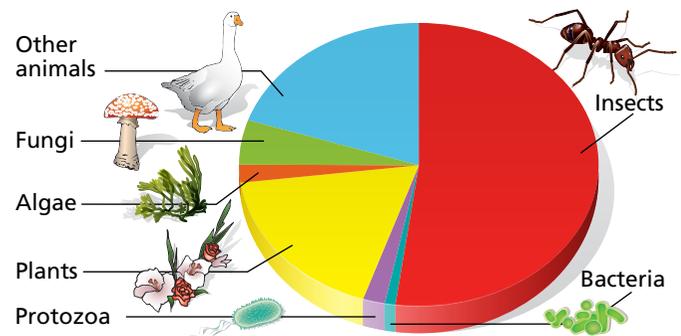
- 55 If you had to classify living things, would you use external appearance as a criterion? Give reasons for your answer.

The five kingdoms

- 56 If we classified living things using six kingdoms instead of five, which kingdom would you split into two? Give reasons for your answer.
- 57 Make a table and identify the characteristics of each kingdom.
- Type of cell
 - Cell organisation
 - Presence of tissues
 - Nutrition

Biodiversity

- 58 Look at the pie chart and order the kingdoms according to how biodiverse they are.



- 59  Define biodiversity. If we estimate that currently there are 5 million species, why do you think it's so important to protect them? What are the possible consequences of a species becoming extinct?

Study skills

- I Prepare a summary of the unit that answers the following questions:
 - How are living and non-living things different?
 - What are the main biomolecules that make up living things?
 - What is a cell?
 - What are the similarities and differences between a prokaryotic and a eukaryotic cell?
 - What are the vital functions of living things?
 - What are the large groups of living things and what are their characteristics?
 - What are the origins of biodiversity?
- II Create a mind map that contains the following concepts: levels of organisation, fungi, eukaryote, bioelements, plant cell, reproduction, biomolecules, nutrition, cells, Protista, vital functions, animal cell, kingdoms, Monera, plants, animals, relationship and prokaryote.
- III Create your own glossary of scientific vocabulary. Define the following terms: biodiversity, bioelement, biomolecule, cell, cytoplasm, species, stimulus, eukaryotic, plasma membrane, organelle, prokaryotic, receptor, kingdom. Complete your glossary with other terms related to the subject.



Passnotes



Digital Revision activities



Concept map

Observing eukaryotic cells

The discovery of the cell is closely linked to the invention of the microscope. In this practical activity you'll be observing eukaryotic plant cells and eukaryotic animal cells in order to note some of their differences.

Before completing the activity, you can watch how to do it in the video

OBJECTIVES

- Learn to use a microscope
- Differentiate eukaryotic plant and animal cells

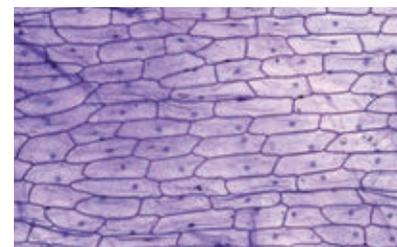
MATERIALS

- microscope
- blotting paper
- water
- slides
- cover slips
- tweezers
- onion
- toothpick
- methylene blue

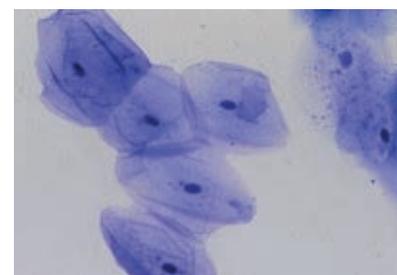


METHOD

1. Cut the onion and separate a part of the thin inner layer.
2. Use the tweezers to place the thin layer on the slide. Try to extend the layer evenly over the slide.
3. Add a drop of water to the sample and spread it well. Remove excess water using the blotting paper.
4. Add a drop of methylene blue. Leave it to act for 5 minutes and remove any excess liquid with blotting paper.
5. Place a cover slip over the sample.
6. Scratch the inside of your cheek with a toothpick and spread the sample over another slide.
7. Repeat steps 4 and 5. Next, place one of the samples in the microscope and hold it with the tweezers so that it doesn't move.
8. Begin by observing the sample using the lowest magnification. To focus, first change the course adjustment and then the fine adjustment.
9. Write in your notebook the characteristics of the cells observed and make your own drawings.
10. Use the highest magnification of the microscope to observe the sample. Draw the sample and make notes describing everything you see



Cells of the skin of the onion



Cells of the oral mucosa

Analyse the experiment

- 1 What magnification did you use first?
- 2 Answer the questions taking into consideration the magnification of the eyepiece and objective.
 - a. What was the total magnification you used when you used the lowest magnification lenses?
 - b. And when you used the highest magnification?
- 3 What's the reason for using methylene blue?
- 4 What's the darker dot inside the cells?
- 5 Draw your own conclusions about this practical activity and explain the differences you have observed between the two cell types.

Work on your key competencies



Different types of cells Poster

How many types of cells are there in nature?

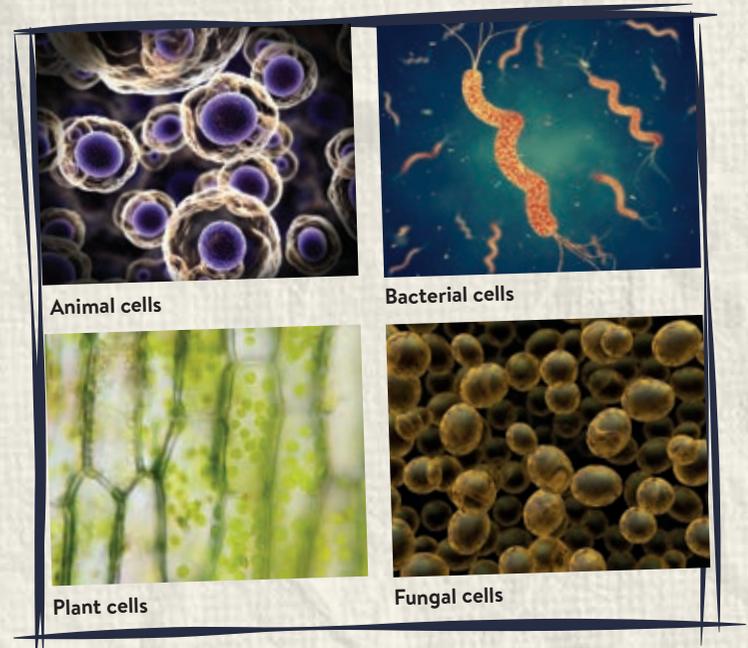
All living things are made up of cells, or at least one. All cells share three components. The first is an external layer, the plasma membrane, which surrounds the cell and allows the entrance and exit of substances. The second is an internal liquid, the cytoplasm, which contains specialised structures called organelles. The third is a nucleic acid molecule, which contains the genetic information.

Different species of living things have different numbers of cells and these cells have different internal structures.

The **aim** of this task is to investigate the similarities and differences between the cells that make up living things: prokaryotic cells, animal eukaryotic cells and plant eukaryotic cells. You'll create a poster to present the results of your investigation.

Research

- 1 Find out about the parts of a cell and the function of each one. Don't use only one source of information, consult various sources to check the data you find.
- 2 After your research, draw a diagram of the steps you should follow in order to observe cells with their internal organelles. It may be useful to watch the video of the experiment, *Observing eukaryotic cells*.
- 3 Find out which the main cellular organelles are and the advantages and disadvantages of each type of cell.
- 4 Using the previous information, answer this question: What is the relationship between the function of organelles in eukaryotic cells and the vital functions of a multicellular living thing?



Development and writing up

- 5 Prepare a list of the characteristics of each type of cell and make a table to show the similarities and differences between each cell.
- 6 Create a poster with all the information you have selected. Remember the instructions for making a poster described in Unit 1:
 - Use a short title and define clear objectives. Don't forget the names and surnames of the authors.
 - Organise the work in paragraphs or sections.
 - Use images to clarify the information in the text. You can use your own photos if you have done practical research in the laboratory.
 - Include a bibliography with all the sources you consulted (texts and images).

Share your findings

- 7  Present the poster you have made and discuss your results with the rest of the class.