

Cells: The Building Blocks of Life



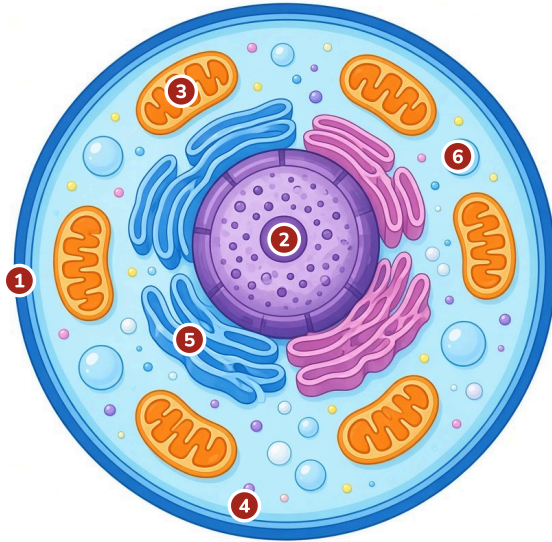
Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Use the word bank to label the diagram. Read the Did you know? box. Number the 4 discoveries in order, tick True or False, match each word to its meaning, then write short answers.

Word bank (body parts): Cell membrane Cytoplasm Endoplasmic reticulum Mitochondrion Nucleus Vacuole

1. Label the diagram



1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____
5 _____ 6 _____

Did you know?

- You are made of about 37 trillion cells.
- Some nerve cells are longer than a metre.
- Cells lining your gut are replaced every few days.



Tayo with his anatomy model

About this topic

Every living thing is made of tiny units called cells. Some living things, like bacteria, are just one cell. You are made of around 37 trillion cells working together. Most cells are far too small to see without a microscope: about 10,000 average human cells could fit on the head of a pin. A cell is alive.

2. Put the discoveries in order

Write 1 to 4 in the boxes (1 = first).

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Van Leeuwenhoek sees living single cells | ☐ Robert Hooke names 'cells' in cork |
| ☐ The double-helix shape of DNA is discovered | ☐ Schwann and Schleiden: all living things are made of cells |

3. True or false?

All living things are made of cells.	☐ True	☐ False
You can see most cells without a microscope.	☐ True	☐ False
Mitochondria release energy.	☐ True	☐ False
Red blood cells have a big nucleus.	☐ True	☐ False

4. Match up

Write the letter of the right meaning in the box.

Cell	A. Parts of a cell that release energy from food.
Nucleus	B. The smallest unit of a living thing.
Mitochondria	C. The thin layer around a cell that controls what goes in and out.
Membrane	D. The control centre of a cell, which holds DNA.

5. Short answers

- What is the control centre of the cell called?

- Name one cell part found in plant cells but not animal cells.

- What instrument do we need to see cells?

- Explain in your own words: In your own words, explain what a cell is and why it is called the basic unit of life.

- Stretch: Choose two parts of a cell and explain what each one does.

