

Lectures by Chris Romero, updated by Erin Barley with contributions from Joan Sharp

### **Overview: The Fundamental Units of Life**

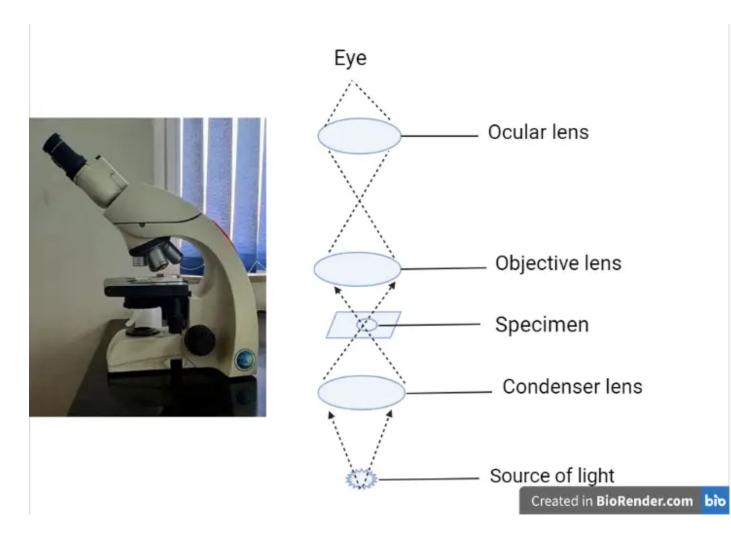
- All organisms are made of cells
- The cell is the simplest collection of matter that can live
- Cell structure is correlated to cellular function
- All cells are related by their descent from earlier cells

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

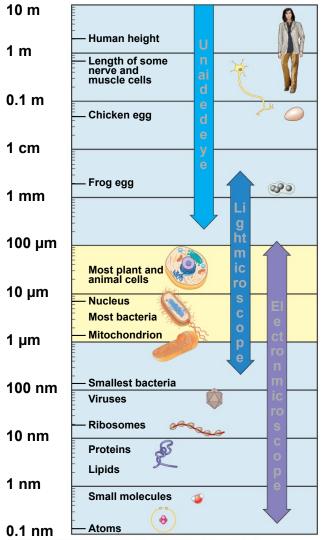
• Though usually too small to be seen by the unaided eye, cells can be complex

# Microscopy

- Scientists use microscopes to visualize cells too small to see with the naked eye
- In a light microscope (LM), visible light passes through a <u>specimen</u> and then through glass lenses, which <u>magnify</u> the image



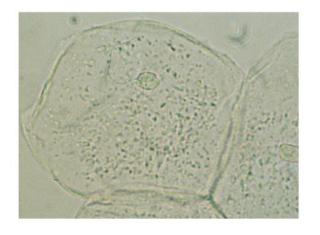
- The quality of an image depends on
- *Magnification*, the ratio of an object's image size to its real size
- *Resolution*, the measure of the clarity of the image, or the minimum distance of two distinguishable points
  - *Contrast*, visible differences in parts of the sample



- LMs can magnify effectively to about (,000) times the size of the actual specimen
- Various techniques enhance contrast and enable cell components to be stained or labeled
- Most subcellular structures, including organelles (membrane-enclosed compartments), are too small to be resolved by an LM

(a) Brightfield (unstained specimen)

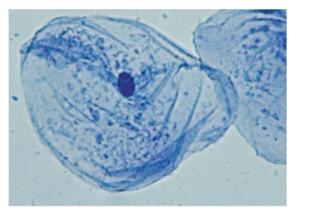
#### RESULTS



50 µm

# (b) Brightfield (stained specimen)

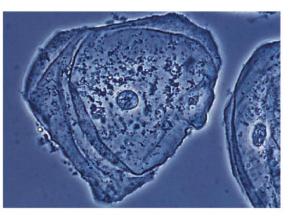
known as a compound light microscopy, by using 2 lenses to focus visible light thru specimens



#### (c) Phase-contrast

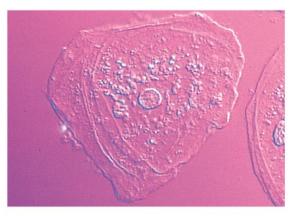
Used to enhance the contrast of images of transparent and colorless specimens.

### RESULTS



#### (d) Differential-interferencecontrast (Nomarski)

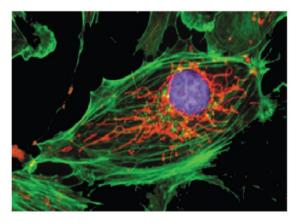
introduces contrast to images of specimens which have little or no contrast when viewed using brightfield microscopy.

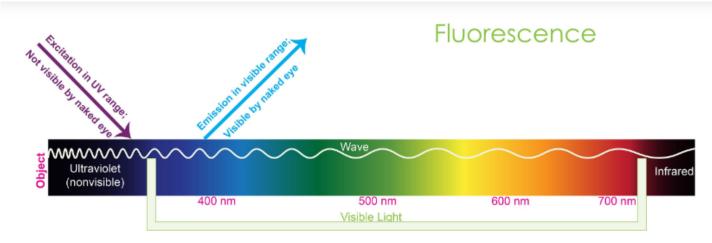


#### (e) Fluorescence

Exciting a fluorophore with light at a shorter wavelength, which causes it to emit light at a longer wavelength.

#### RESULTS

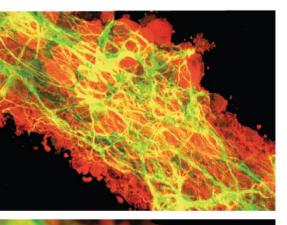


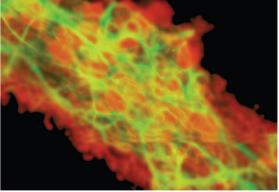


#### (f) Confoc

For **A** creasing optical resolution and contrast of a micrograph by means of using a spatial pinhole to block out-of-focus light in image formation.

### RESULTS



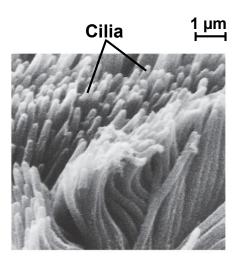


50 μm

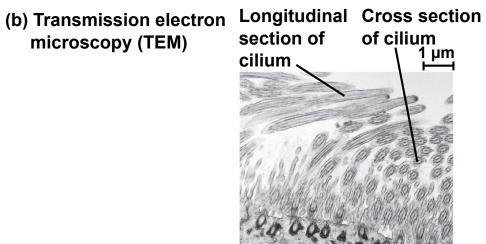
- Two basic types of electron microscopes
  (EMs) are used to study subcellular structures
- Scanning electron microscopes (SEMs) focus a beam of electrons onto the surface of a specimen, providing images that look 3-D
- Transmission electron microscopes (TEMs) focus a beam of electrons through a specimen
- TEMs are used mainly to study the internal structure of cells

#### RESULTS

(a) Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)



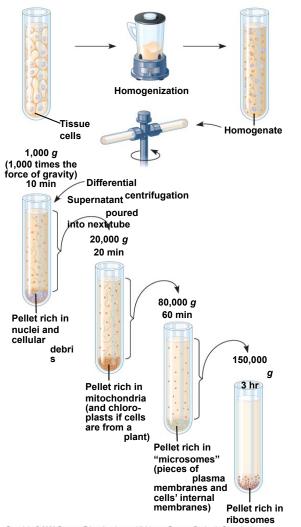
microscopy (TEM)

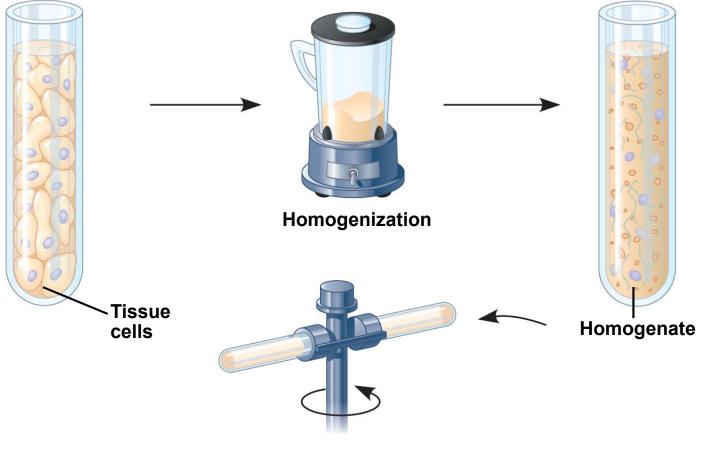


# **Cell Fractionation**

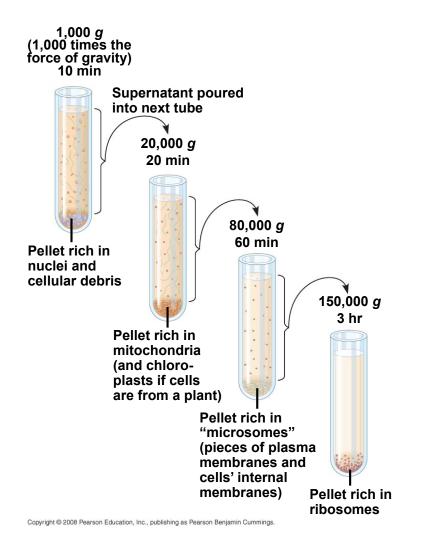
- Cell fractionation takes cells apart and separates the major organelles from one another
- Ultracentrifuges fractionate cells into their component parts
- Cell fractionation enables scientists to determine the functions of organelles
- Biochemistry and cytology help correlate cell function with structure

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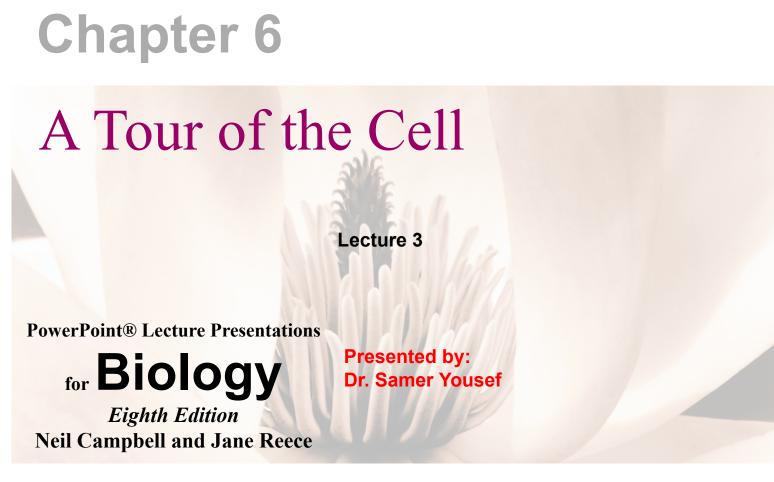


**Differential centrifugation** 



### **Concept 6.2: Eukaryotic cells have internal membranes that compartmentalize their functions**

- The basic structural and functional unit of every organism is one of two types of cells: prokaryotic or eukaryotic
- Only organisms of the domains Bacteria and Archaea consist of prokaryotic cells
- Protists, fungi, animals, and plants all consist of eukaryotic cells

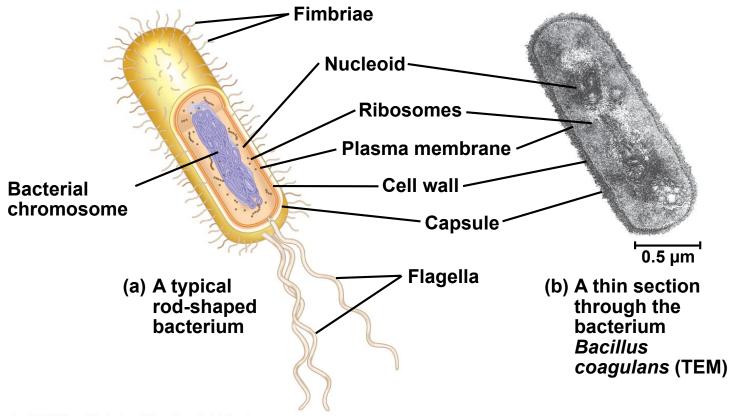


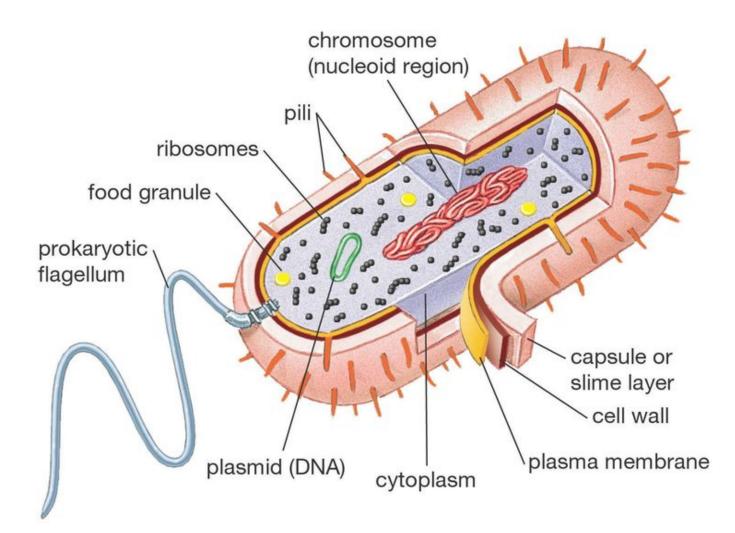
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# **Comparing Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Cells**

- Basic features of all cells:
- Plasma membrane
- Semifluid substance called cytosol
- Chromosomes (carry genes)
- Ribosomes (make proteins)

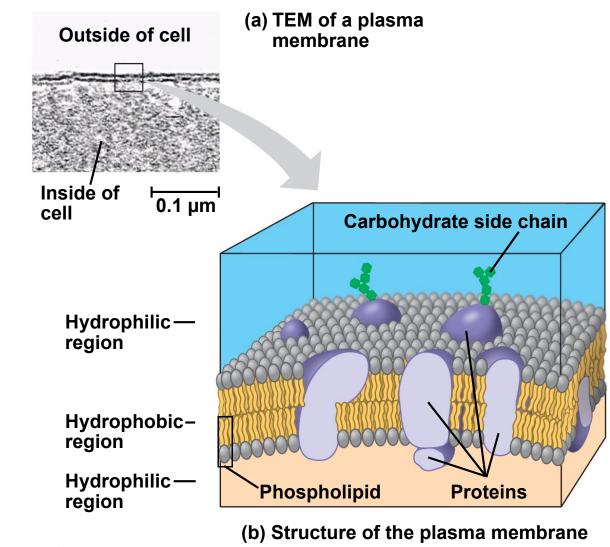
- Prokaryotic cells are characterized by having
- No nucleus
- DNA in an unbound region called the **nucleoid**
- No membrane-bound organelles
- **Cytoplasm** bound by the plasma membrane





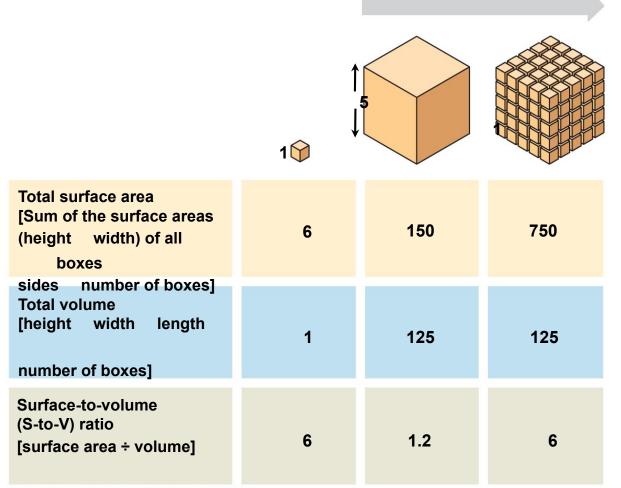
- Eukaryotic cells are characterized by having
- DNA in a nucleus that is bounded by a membranous nuclear envelope
- Membrane-bound organelles
- Cytoplasm in the region between the plasma membrane and nucleus
- Eukaryotic cells are generally much larger than
  prokaryotic cells

- The plasma membrane is a selective barrier that allows sufficient passage of oxygen, nutrients, and waste to service the volume of every cell
- The general structure of a biological membrane is a double layer of phospholipids



- The logistics of carrying out cellular metabolism sets limits on the size of cells
- The surface area to volume ratio of a cell is critical
- As the surface area increases by a factor of *n*2, the volume increases by a factor of *n*3
- Small cells have a greater surface area relative to volume

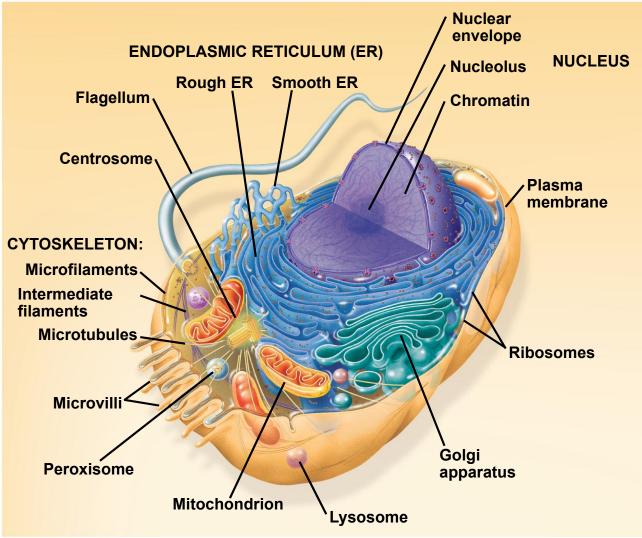
# Surface area increases while total volume remains constant



# A Panoramic View of the Eukaryotic Cell

- A eukaryotic cell has internal membranes that partition the cell into organelles
- Plant and animal cells have most of the same organelles

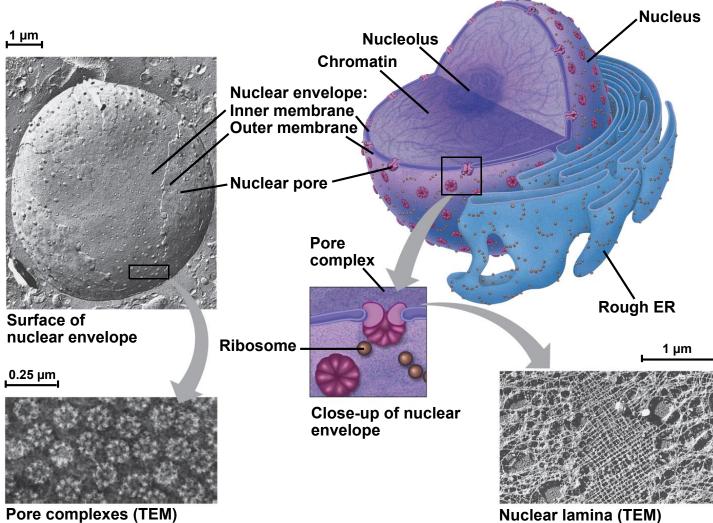




### **Concept 6.3: The eukaryotic cell's genetic instructions are housed in the nucleus and carried out by the ribosomes**

- The nucleus contains most of the DNA in a eukaryotic cell
- Ribosomes use the information from the DNA to make proteins

- The **nucleus** contains most of the cell's genes and is usually the most conspicuous organelle
- The **nuclear envelope** encloses the nucleus, separating it from the cytoplasm
- The nuclear membrane is a double membrane; each membrane consists of a lipid bilayer



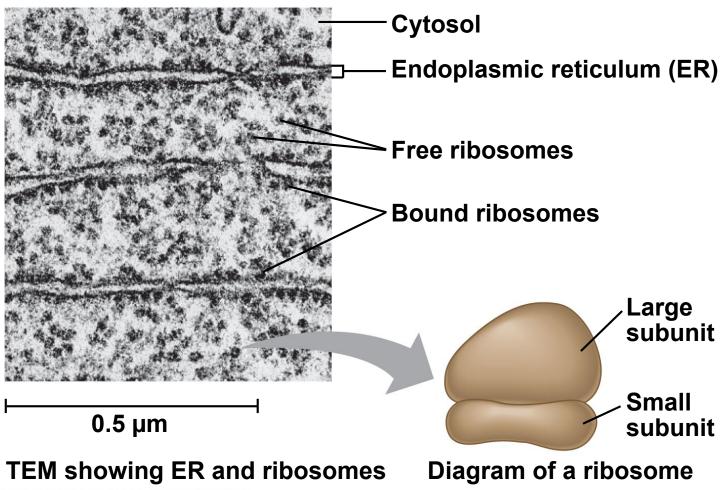
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- Pores regulate the entry and exit of molecules from the nucleus
- The shape of the nucleus is maintained by the **nuclear lamina**, which is composed of protein

- In the nucleus, DNA and proteins form genetic material called chromatin
- Chromatin condenses to form discrete
  chromosomes
- The nucleolus is located within the nucleus and is the site of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) synthesis

#### **Ribosomes: Protein Factories**

- Ribosomes are particles made of ribosomal RNA and protein
- Ribosomes carry out protein synthesis in two locations:
- In the cytosol (free ribosomes)
- On the outside of the endoplasmic reticulum or the nuclear envelope (bound ribosomes)



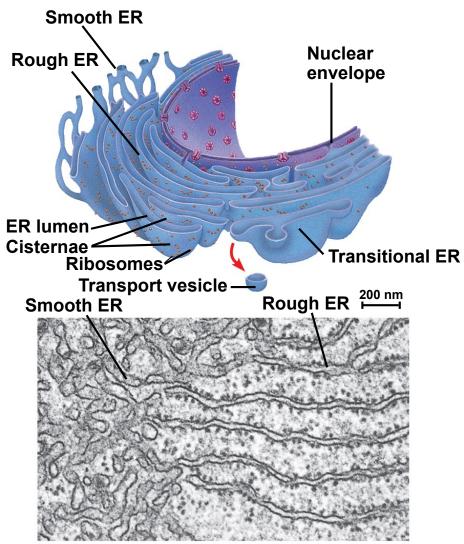
#### **Concept 6.4: The endomembrane system regulates protein traffic and performs metabolic functions in the cell**

- Components of the **endomembrane system**:
- Nuclear envelope
- Endoplasmic reticulum
- Golgi apparatus
- Lysosomes
- Vacuoles
- Plasma membrane
- These components are either continuous or connected via transfer by **vesicles**

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### **The Endoplasmic Reticulum: Biosynthetic Factory**

- The endoplasmic reticulum (ER) accounts for more than half of the total membrane in many eukaryotic cells
- The ER membrane is continuous with the nuclear envelope
- There are two distinct regions of ER:
- **Smooth ER**, which lacks ribosomes
- **Rough ER**, with ribosomes studding its surface



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#### Functions of Smooth ER

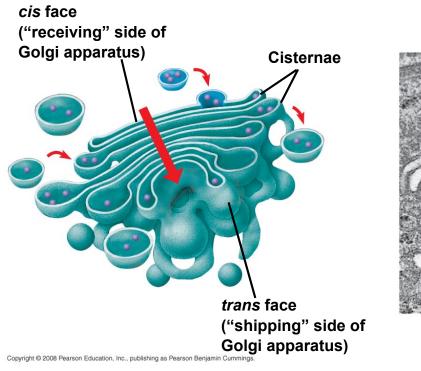
- The smooth ER
- Synthesizes lipids
- Metabolizes carbohydrates
- Detoxifies poison
- Stores calcium

#### Functions of Rough ER

- The rough ER
- Has bound ribosomes, which secrete glycoproteins (proteins covalently bonded to carbohydrates)
- Distributes transport vesicles, proteins surrounded by membranes
- Is a membrane factory for the cell

# The Golgi Apparatus: Shipping and Receiving Center

- The **Golgi apparatus** consists of flattened membranous sacs called cisternae
- Functions of the Golgi apparatus:
- Modifies products of the ER
- Manufactures certain macromolecules
- Sorts and packages materials into transport vesicles



#### 0.1 µm

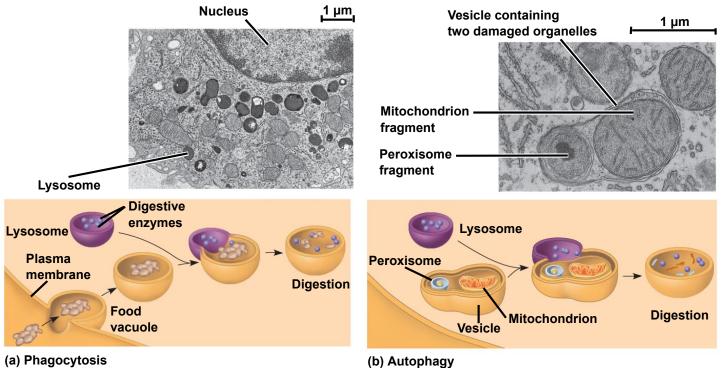


**TEM of Golgi apparatus** 

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

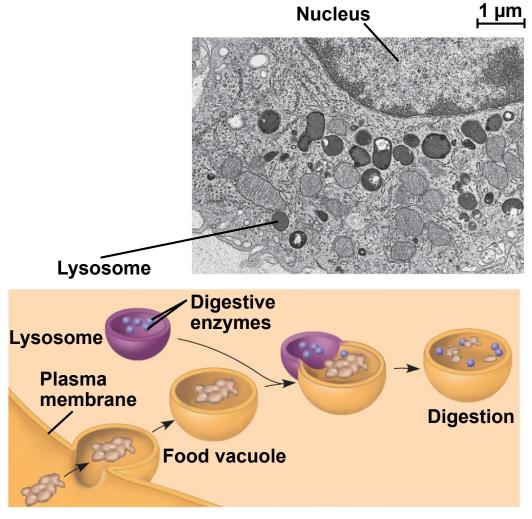


- Some types of cell can engulf another cell by phagocytosis; this forms a food vacuole
- A lysosome fuses with the food vacuole and digests the molecules
- Lysosomes also use enzymes to recycle the cell's own organelles and macromolecules, a process called autophagy

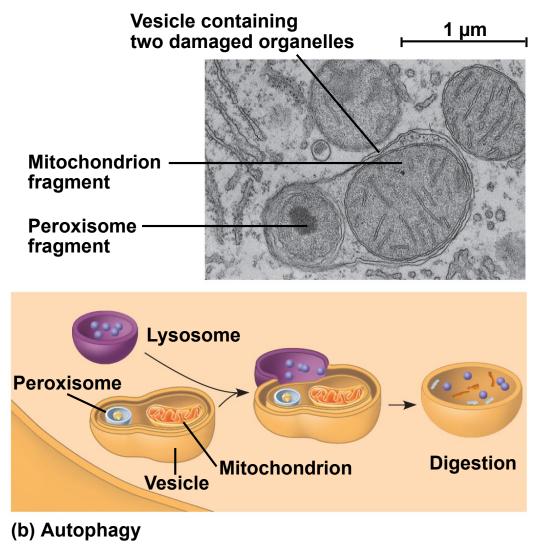


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(b) Autophagy



(a) Phagocytosis



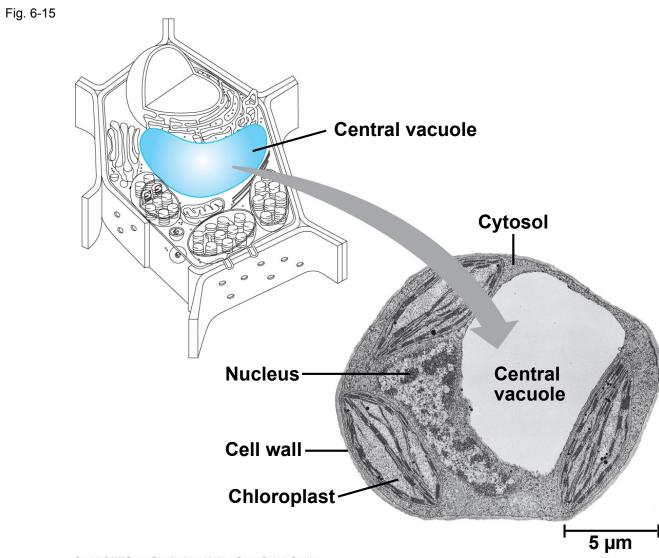
#### **Vacuoles: Diverse Maintenance Compartments**

 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, pump excess water out of cells
- Central vacuoles, found in many mature plant cells, hold organic compounds and water

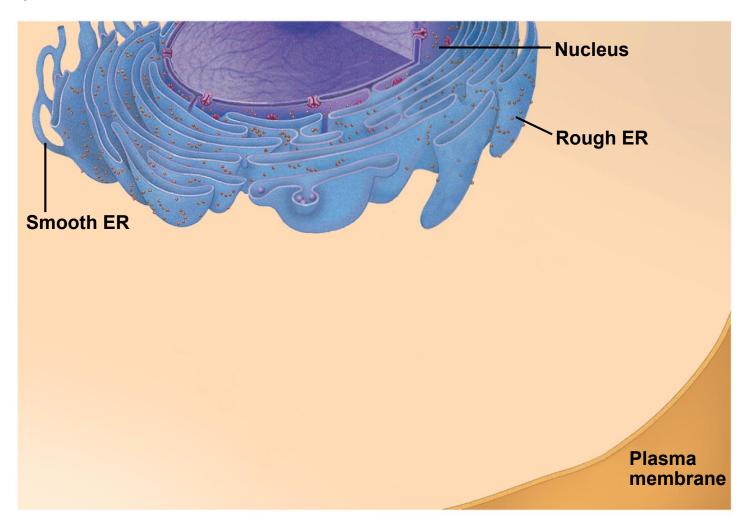


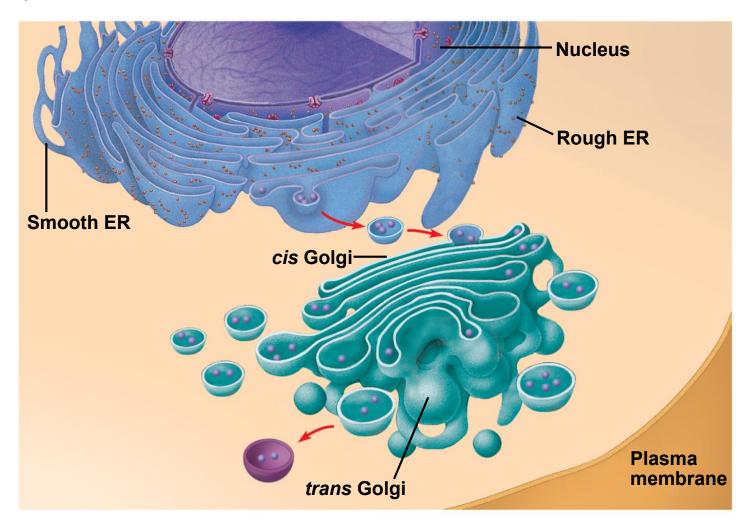
Vacuole

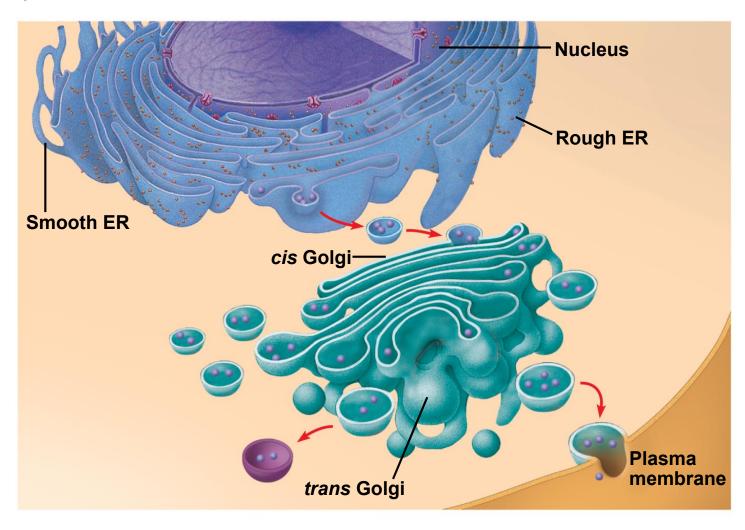


#### The Endomembrane System: A Review

 The endomembrane system is a complex and dynamic player in the cell's compartmental organization







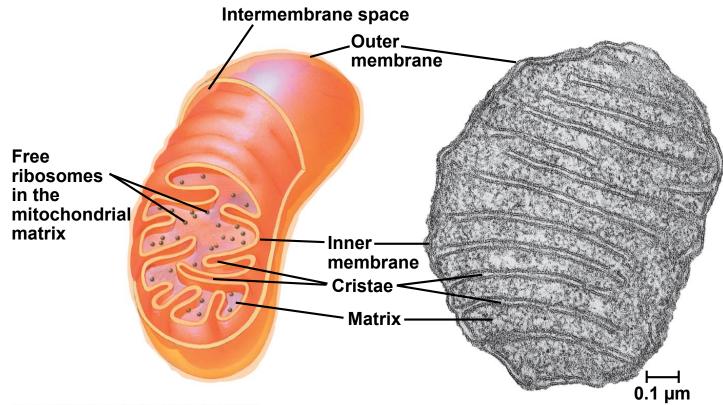
#### **Concept 6.5: Mitochondria and chloroplasts change energy from one form to another**

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

- Mitochondria and chloroplasts
- Are not part of the endomembrane system
- Have a double membrane
- Have proteins made by free ribosomes
- Contain their own DNA

## **Mitochondria: Chemical Energy Conversion**

- Mitochondria are in nearly all eukaryotic cells
- They have a smooth outer membrane and an inner membrane folded into cristae
- The inner membrane creates two compartments: intermembrane space and mitochondrial matrix
- Some metabolic steps of cellular respiration are catalyzed in the mitochondrial matrix
- Cristae present a large surface area for enzymes that synthesize ATP

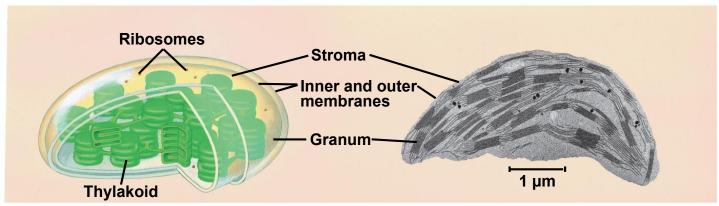


### **Chloroplasts: Capture of Light Energy**

- The chloroplast is a member of a family of organelles called **plastids**
- Chloroplasts contain the green pigment chlorophyll, as well as enzymes and other molecules that function in photosynthesis
- Chloroplasts are found in leaves and other green organs of plants and in algae

- Chloroplast structure includes:
- Thylakoids, membranous sacs, stacked to form a granum Stroma, the internal fluid

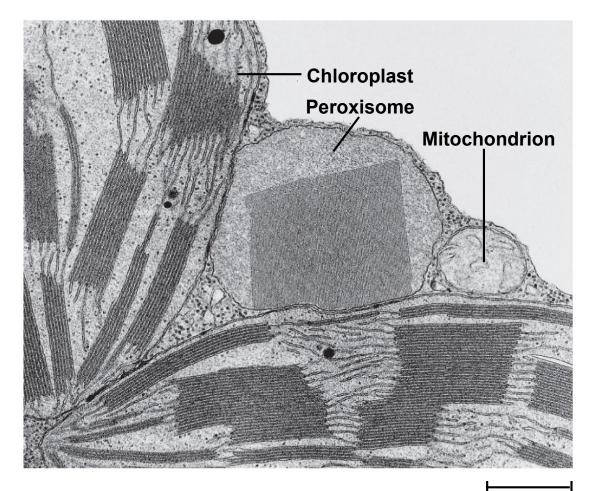




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#### **Peroxisomes: Oxidation**

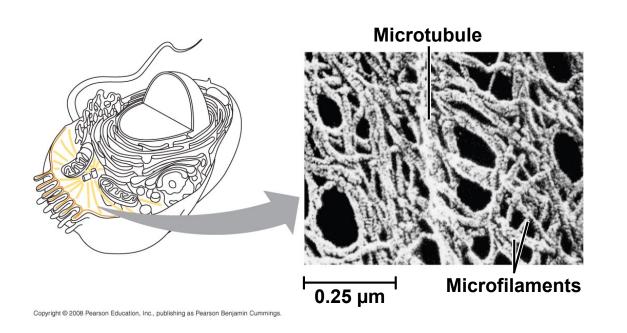
- Peroxisomes are specialized metabolic compartments bounded by a single membrane
- Peroxisomes produce hydrogen peroxide and convert it to water
- Oxygen is used to break down different types of molecules



1 µm

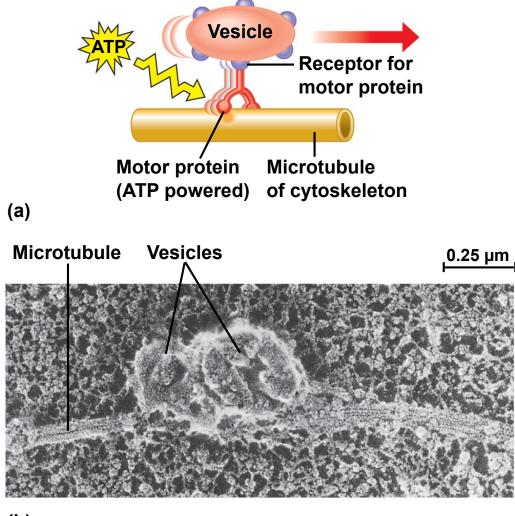
#### **Concept 6.6: The cytoskeleton is a network of fibers that organizes structures and activities in the cell**

- The **cytoskeleton** is a network of fibers extending throughout the cytoplasm
- It organizes the cell's structures and activities, anchoring many organelles
- It is composed of three types of molecular structures:
- Microtubules
- Microfilaments
- Intermediate filaments



# **Roles of the Cytoskeleton: Support, Motility, and Regulation**

- The cytoskeleton helps to support the cell and maintain its shape
- It interacts with motor proteins to produce motility
- Inside the cell, vesicles can travel along "monorails" provided by the cytoskeleton
- Recent evidence suggests that the cytoskeleton may help regulate biochemical activities



#### (b)

#### **Components of the Cytoskeleton**

- Three main types of fibers make up the cytoskeleton:
- *Microtubules* are the thickest of the three components of the cytoskeleton
- Microfilaments, also called actin filaments, are the thinnest components
- Intermediate filaments are fibers with diameters in a middle range

#### Table 6-1

Property	Microtubules (Tubulin Polymers)	Microfilaments (Actin Filaments)	Intermediate Filaments
Structure	Hollow tubes; wall consists of 13 columns of tubulin molecules	Two intertwined strands of actin, each a polymer of actin subunits	Fibrous proteins supercoiled into thicker cables
Diameter	25 nm with 15-nm lumen	7 nm	8–12 nm
Protein subunits	Tubulin, a dimer consisting of $\alpha$ -tubulin and $\beta$ -tubulin	Actin	One of several different proteins of the keratin family, depending on cell type
Main functions	Maintenance of cell shape (compression-resisting "girders") Cell motility (as in cilia or flagella) Chromosome movements in cell division	Maintenance of cell shape (tension-bearing elements) Changes in cell shape Muscle contraction Cytoplasmic streaming	Maintenance of cell shape (tension-bearing elements) Anchorage of nucleus and certain other organelles Formation of nuclear lamina
	Organelle movements 10 μπ	Cell motility (as in pseudopodia) Cell division (cleavage furrow formation)	ım 10 μr
Micrographs of fibroblasts, a favorite cell type for cell biology studies. Each has been experimentally treated to fluorescently tag the structure of interest.			
	Column of tubulin dimers	Actin subunit	Keratin proteins Fibrous subunit (keratins

10	
μm	-

		<b>I</b> *
Property	Microtubules (Tubulin Polymers)	
Structure	Hollow tubes; wall consists of 13 columns of tubulin molecules	
Diameter	25 nm with 15-nm lumen	
Protein subunits	Tubulin	
Main functions	Maintenance of cell shape	
	Cell motility Chromosome movements in cell division	Column of tubulin
	Organelle movements	dimers 25 nm To balling dimension
		/ ` `Tubulin dimer

Property	Microfilaments (Actin Filaments)	
Structure	Two intertwined strands of actin	
Diameter	7 nm	
Protein subunits	Actin	
Main	Maintenance of cell shape	
functions	Changes in cell shape	
	Muscle contraction	
	Cytoplasmic streaming	
	Cell motility	Actin subunit
	Cell division	<b>7 nm</b>

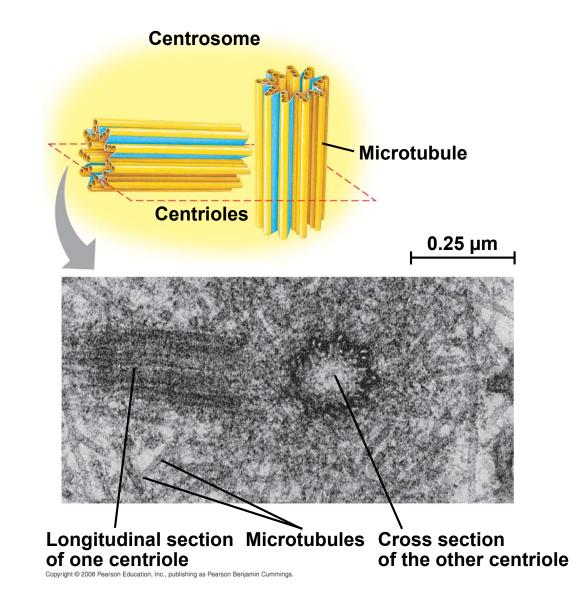
_5	μm	_

### **Microtubules**

- **Microtubules** are hollow rods about 25 nm in diameter and about 200 nm to 25 microns long
- Functions of microtubules:
- Shaping the cell
- Guiding movement of organelles
- Separating chromosomes during cell division

## **Centrosomes and Centrioles**

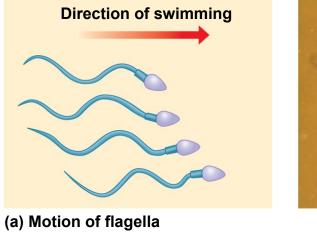
- In many cells, microtubules grow out from a centrosome near the nucleus
- The centrosome is a "microtubule-organizing center"
- In animal cells, the centrosome has a pair of centrioles, each with nine triplets of microtubules arranged in a ring



# **Cilia and Flagella**

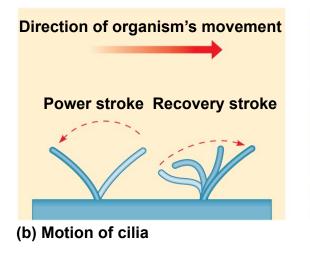
- Microtubules control the beating of cilia and flagella, locomotor appendages of some cells
- Cilia and flagella differ in their beating patterns



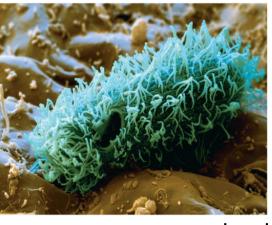




<mark>F μm</mark> I



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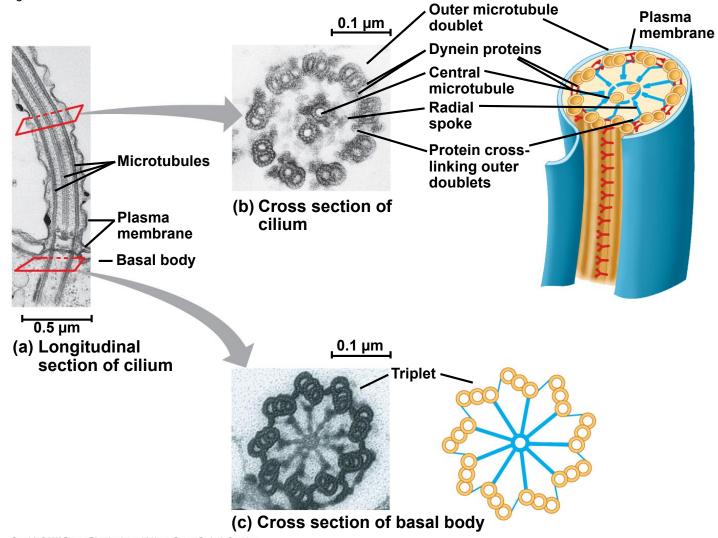


⊢—–– 15 μm

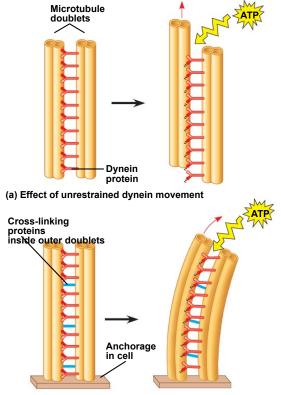
- Cilia and flagella share a common ultrastructure:
- A core of microtubules sheathed by the plasma membrane
- A **basal body** that anchors the cilium or flagellum
- A motor protein called **dynein**, which drives the bending movements of a cilium or flagellum



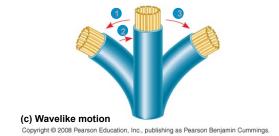
Animation: Cilia and Flagella



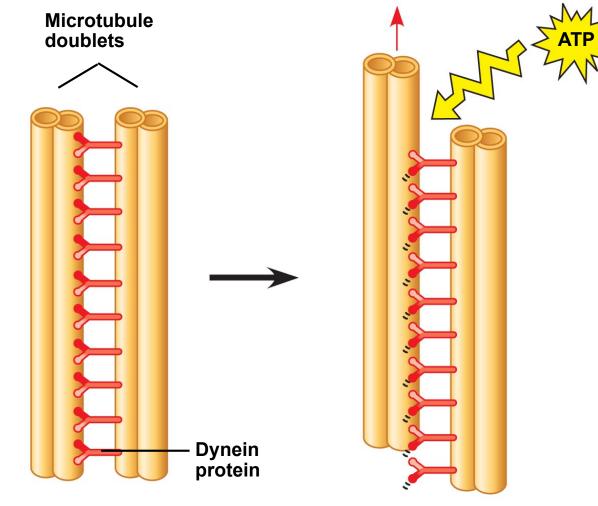
- How dynein "walking" moves flagella and cilia:
- Dynein arms alternately grab, move, and release the outer microtubules
- Protein cross-links limit sliding
- Forces exerted by dynein arms cause doublets to curve, bending the cilium or flagellum



(b) Effect of cross-linking proteins

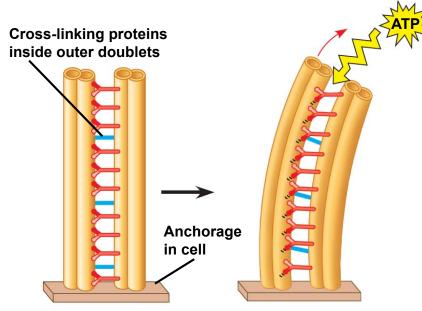




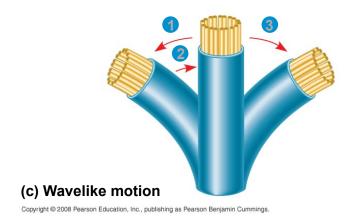


#### (a) Effect of unrestrained dynein movement

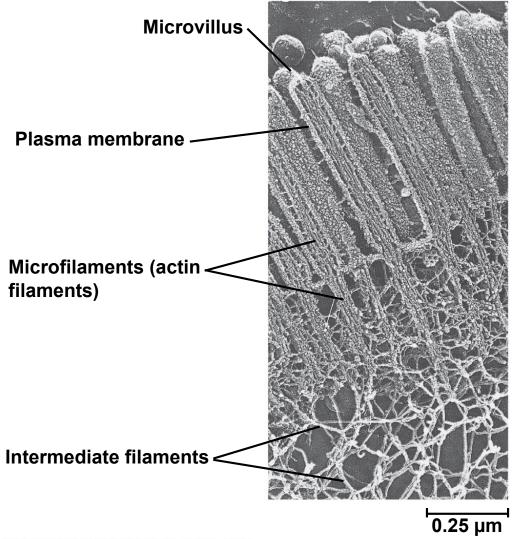
Fig. 6-25b



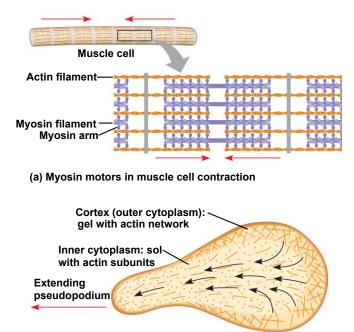
(b) Effect of cross-linking proteins



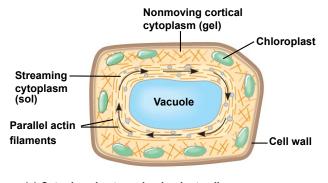
- Microfilaments are solid rods about 7 nm in diameter, built as a twisted double chain of actin subunits
- The structural role of microfilaments is to bear tension, resisting pulling forces within the cell
- They form a 3-D network called the cortex just inside the plasma membrane to help support the cell's shape
- Bundles of microfilaments make up the core of microvilli of intestinal cells



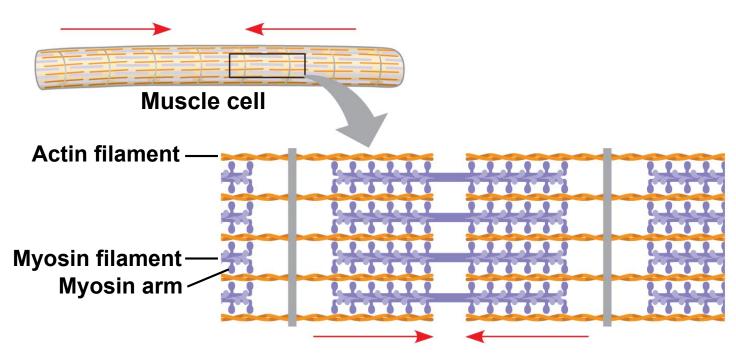
- Microfilaments that function in cellular motility contain the protein myosin in addition to actin
- In muscle cells, thousands of actin filaments are arranged parallel to one another
- Thicker filaments composed of myosin interdigitate with the thinner actin fibers



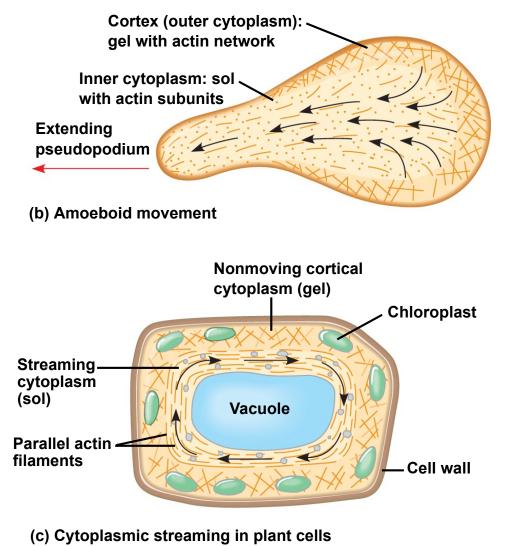
(b) Amoeboid movement



(c) Cytoplasmic streaming in plant cells Copyright © 2008 Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Pearson Benjamin Cummings.



#### (a) Myosin motors in muscle cell contraction



- Localized contraction brought about by actin and myosin also drives amoeboid movement
- **Pseudopodia** (cellular extensions) extend and contract through the reversible assembly and contraction of actin subunits into microfilaments

- **Cytoplasmic streaming** is a circular flow of cytoplasm within cells
- This streaming speeds distribution of materials
  within the cell
- In plant cells, actin-myosin interactions and solgel transformations drive cytoplasmic streaming



#### Intermediate Filaments

- Intermediate filaments range in diameter from 8–12 nanometers, larger than microfilaments but smaller than microtubules
- They support cell shape and fix organelles in place
- Intermediate filaments are more permanent cytoskeleton fixtures than the other two classes

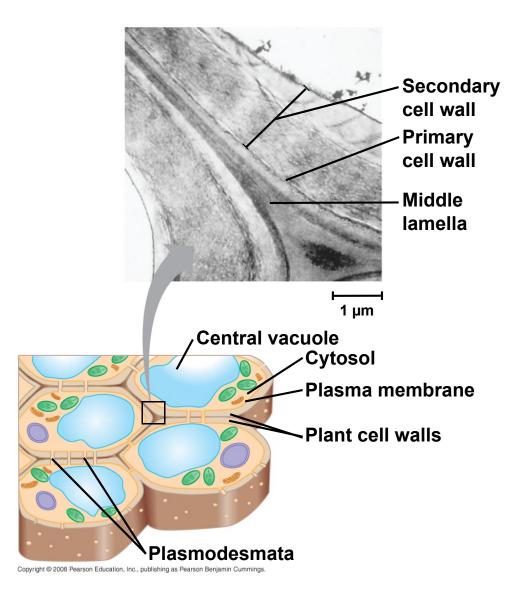
### **Concept 6.7: Extracellular components and connections between cells help coordinate cellular activities**

- 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

# **Cell Walls of Plants**

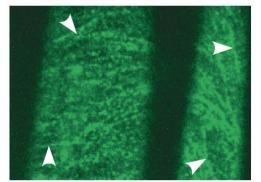
- The **cell wall** is an extracellular structure that distinguishes plant cells from animal cells
- Prokaryotes, fungi, and some protists also have cell walls
- The cell wall protects the plant cell, maintains its shape, and prevents excessive uptake of water
- Plant cell walls are made of cellulose fibers embedded in other polysaccharides and protein

- Plant cell walls may have multiple layers:
- **Primary cell wall**: relatively thin and flexible
- Middle lamella: thin layer between primary walls of adjacent cells
- Secondary cell wall (in some cells): added between the plasma membrane and the primary cell wall
- Plasmodesmata are channels between adjacent plant cells

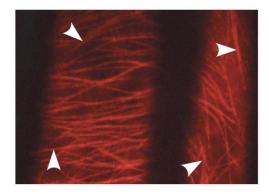


#### RESULTS





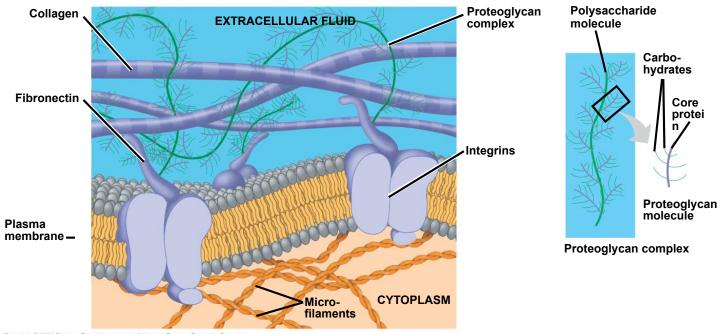
Distribution of cellulose synthase over time

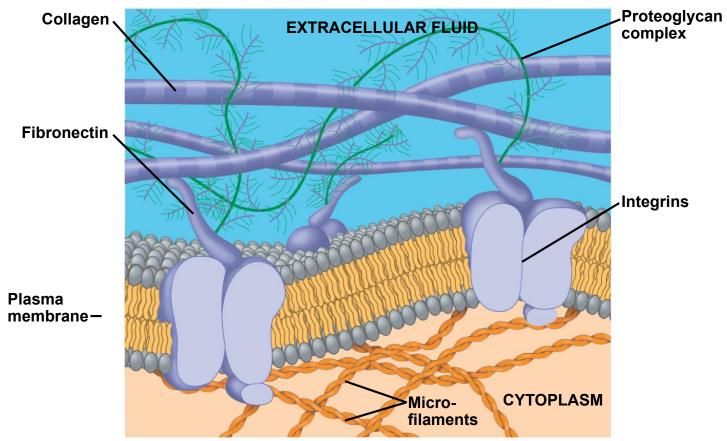


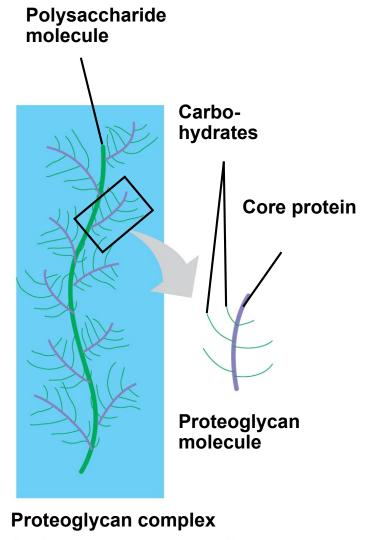
Distribution of microtubules over time

# The Extracellular Matrix (ECM) of Animal Cells

- Animal cells lack cell walls but are covered by an elaborate extracellular matrix (ECM)
- The ECM is made up of glycoproteins such as collagen, proteoglycans, and fibronectin
- ECM proteins bind to receptor proteins in the plasma membrane called **integrins**







- Functions of the ECM:

- Support Adhesion Movement Regulation

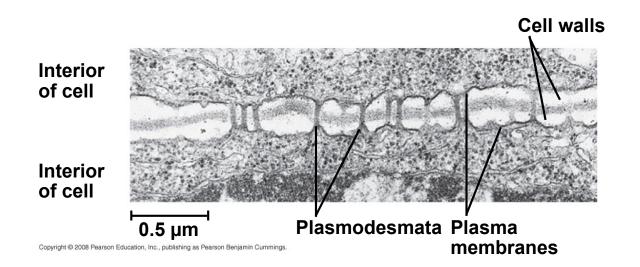
### **Intercellular Junctions**

- 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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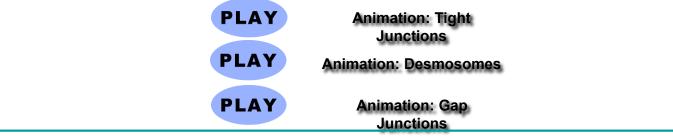
## Plasmodesmata in Plant Cells

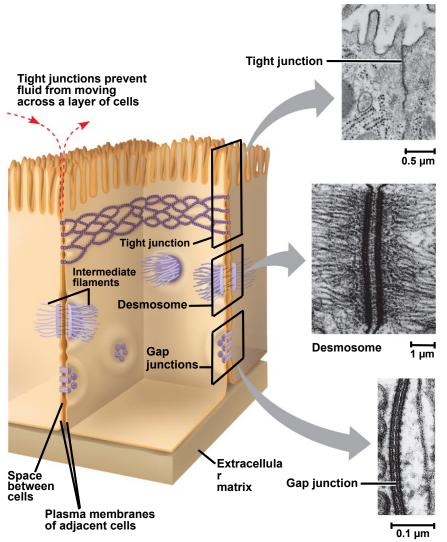
- Plasmodesmata are channels that perforate plant cell walls
- Through plasmodesmata, water and small solutes (and sometimes proteins and RNA) can pass from cell to cell



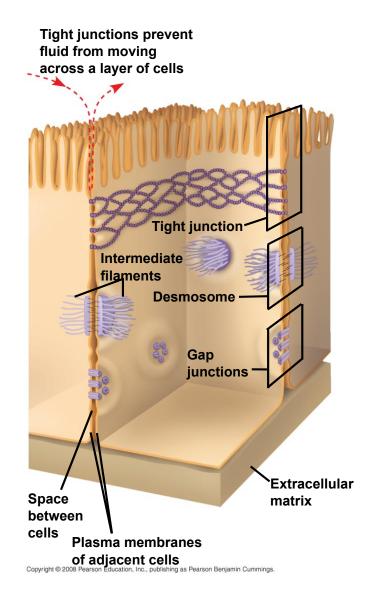
## *Tight Junctions, Desmosomes, and Gap Junctions in Animal Cells*

- At tight junctions, membranes of neighboring cells are pressed together, preventing leakage of extracellular fluid
- Desmosomes (anchoring junctions) fasten cells together into strong sheets
- **Gap junctions** (communicating junctions) provide cytoplasmic channels between adjacent cells



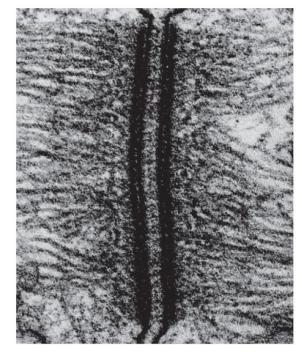


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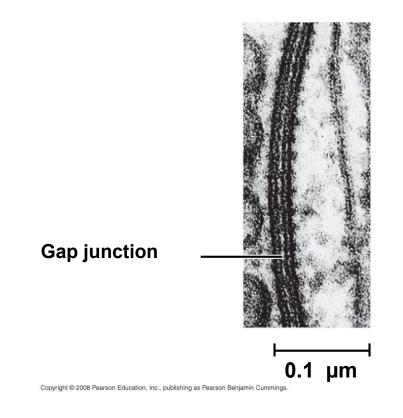
**Tight junction** 





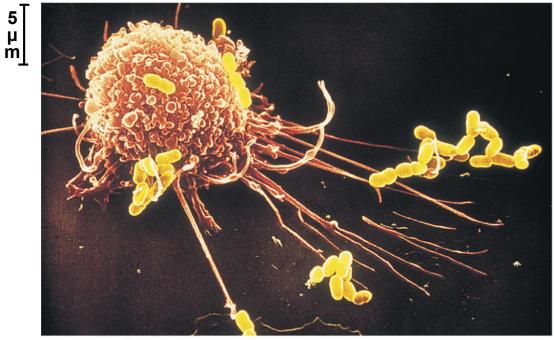






## The Cell: A Living Unit Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts

- Cells rely on the integration of structures and organelles in order to function
- For example, a macrophage's ability to destroy bacteria involves the whole cell, coordinating components such as the cytoskeleton, lysosomes, and plasma membrane



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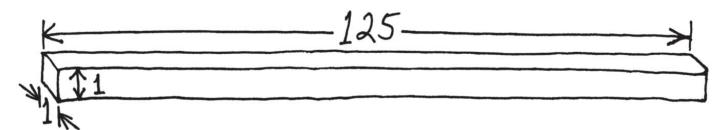
	Cell Component	Structure	Function
Concept 6.3 The eukaryotic cell's genetic instructions are housed in the nucleus and carried out by the ribosomes	Nucleus	Surrounded by nuclear envelope (double membrane) perforated by nuclear pores. The nuclear envelope is continuous with the endoplasmic reticulum (ER).	Houses chromosomes, made of chromatin (DNA, the genetic material, and proteins); contains nucleoli, where ribosomal subunits are made. Pores regulate entry and exit of materials.
	Ribosome	Two subunits made of ribo- somal RNA and proteins; can be free in cytosol or bound to ER	Protein synthesis
Concept 6.4 The endomembrane system regulates protein traffic and performs metabolic functions in the cell	Endoplasmic reticulum (Nuclear envelope)	Extensive network of membrane-bound tubules and sacs; membrane separates lumen from cytosol; continuous with the nuclear envelope.	Smooth ER: synthesis of lipids, metabolism of carbohy- drates, Ca2+ storage, detoxifica- tion of drugs and poisons Rough ER: Aids in synthesis of secretory and other proteins from bound ribosomes; adds carbohydrates to glycoproteins; produces new membrane
	Golgi apparatus	Stacks of flattened membranous sacs; has polarity ( <i>cis</i> and <i>trans</i> faces)	Modification of proteins, carbo- hydrates on proteins, and phos- pholipids; synthesis of many polysaccharides; sorting of Golgi products, which are then released in vesicles.
	Lysosome	Membranous sac of hydrolytic enzymes (in animal cells)	Breakdown of ingested substances, cell macromolecules, and damaged organelles for recycling
	Vacuole	Large membrane-bounded vesicle in plants	Digestion, storage, waste disposal, water balance, cell growth, and protection
Concept 6.5 Mitochondria and chloro- plasts change energy from one form to another	Mitochondrion	Bounded by double membrane; inner membrane has infoldings (cristae)	Cellular respiration
	Chloroplast	Typically two membranes around fluid stroma, which contains membranous thylakoids	Photosynthesis
	Peroxisom	single construction of the second sec	Contains enzymes that transfer hydrogen to water, producing hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) as a by-product, which is converted to water by other enzymes in the peroxisome

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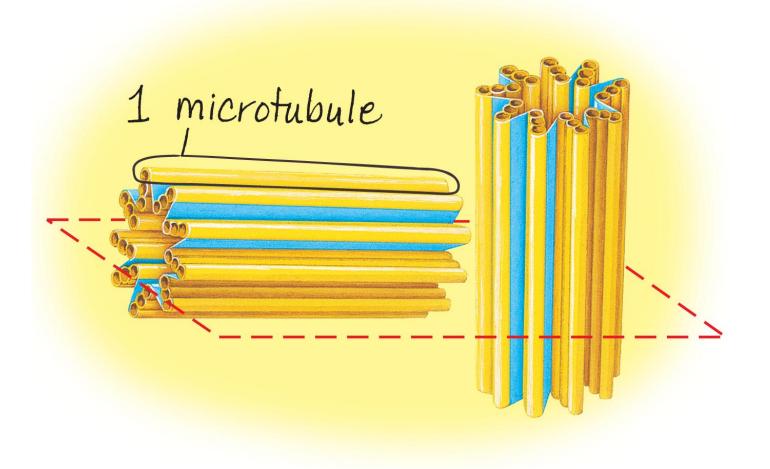
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	Chloroplast	Typically two membranes around fluid stroma, which contains membranous thylakoids stacked into grana (in plants)	Photosynthesis
	Peroxisome	Specialized metabolic compartment bounded by a single membrane	Contains enzymes that transfer hydrogen to water, producing hydrogen peroxide (H2O2) as a by-product, which is converted to water by other enzymes in the peroxisome



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Distinguish between the following pairs of terms: magnification and resolution; prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell; free and bound ribosomes; smooth and rough ER

- Describe the structure and function of the components of the endomembrane system
  - Briefly explain the role of mitochondria, chloroplasts, and peroxisomes
    - Describe the functions of the cytoskeleton

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