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- Science Prof Online (SPO) is a free science education website that provides fully-developed Virtual Science Classrooms, science-related PowerPoints, articles and images. The site is designed to be a helpful resource for students, educators, and anyone interested in learning about science.
- The SPO Virtual Classrooms offer many educational resources, including practice test questions, review questions, lecture PowerPoints, video tutorials, sample assignments and course syllabi. New materials are continually being developed, so check back frequently, or follow us on Facebook (Science Prof Online) or Twitter (ScienceProfSPO) for updates.
- Many SPO PowerPoints are available in a variety of formats, such as fully editable PowerPoint files, as well as uneditable versions in smaller file sizes, such as PowerPoint Shows and Portable Document Format (.pdf), for ease of printing.
- Images used on this resource, and on the SPO website are, wherever possible, credited and linked to their source. Any words underlined and appearing in blue are links that can be clicked on for more information. PowerPoints must be viewed in slide show mode to use the hyperlinks directly.
- Several helpful links to fun and interactive learning tools are included throughout the PPT and on the Smart Links slide, near the end of each presentation. You must be in *slide show mode* to utilize hyperlinks and animations.
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# Introduction to Biology

VIDEO:
Introduction
to Biology



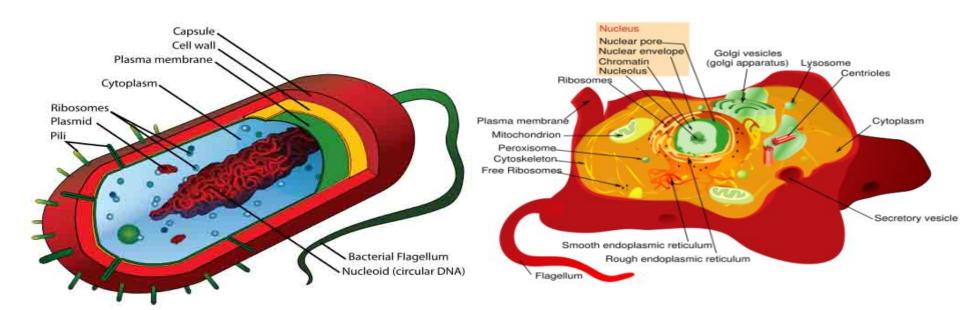


The study of LIVING THINGS

#### Where can living things be found?



#### CELLS Are the Building Blocks of Life!



Prokaryotic Cell

**Eukaryotic Cell** 

- All living things are made of one or more cells.
  - Cells only come from other cells.
    - Cells are really small.
    - How small are they?

#### How do you define living?

#### Some characteristics of life ...

- Organization
- Acquire and transform materials & energy
- Homeostasis
- Respond to stimuli
- Grow, develop & reproduce
- Adapt and evolve (change)



#### Cellular Organisms vs Acellular Particles

#### 1. Cellular life:

#### Prokaryotes

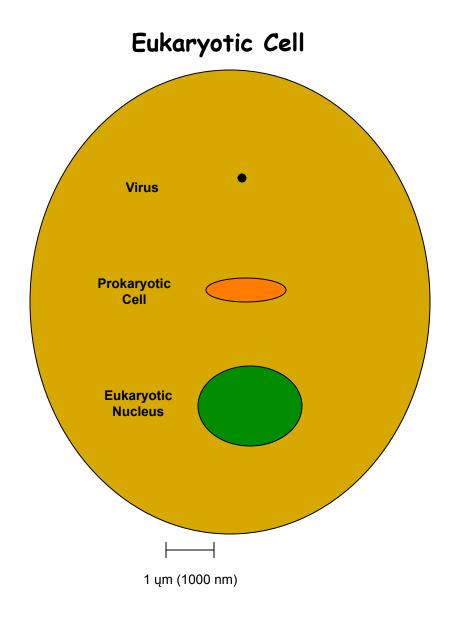
Example: Bacteria

#### Eukaryotes

Example: Most other cellular life.

### 2. Acellular infectious particles:

Viruses

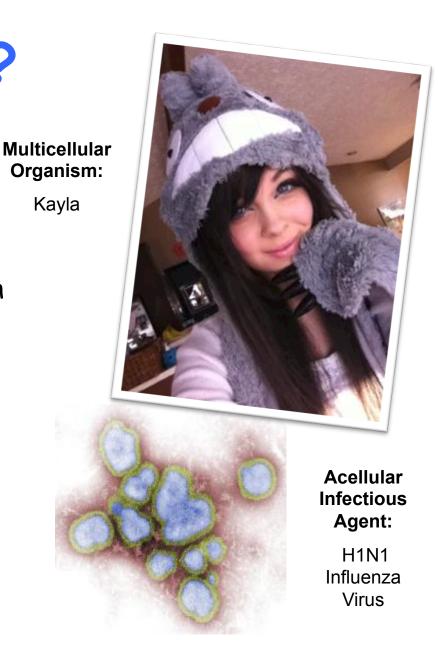


#### Are Viruses Alive?

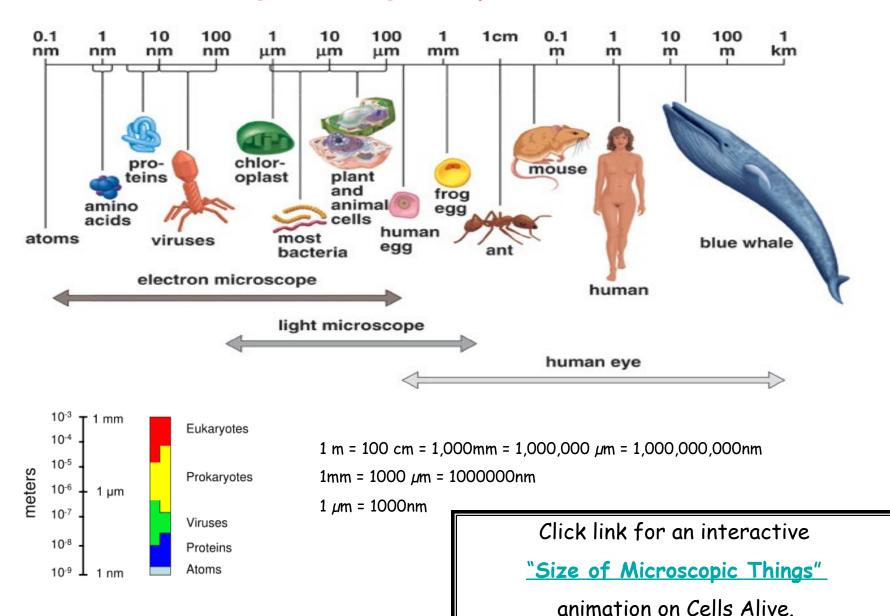
#### > Viruses

- are not made of cells
- cannot reproduce on their own
- do not grow or undergo division
- do not transform energy (metabolism)
- lack machinery for <u>protein</u> synthesis

Later this semester we will examine this question in more detail, through the fantastic <u>Radiolab</u> podcast episode "<u>Shrink</u>."

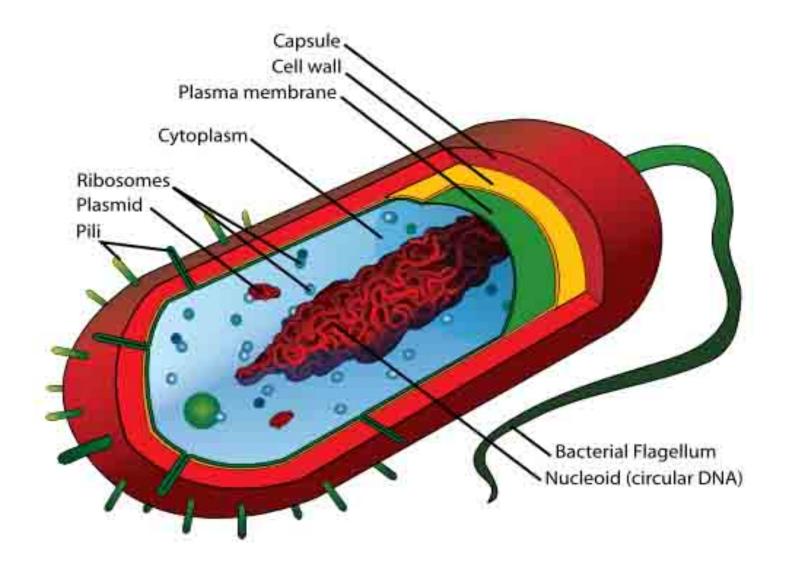


#### Sizing Things Up (and Down)



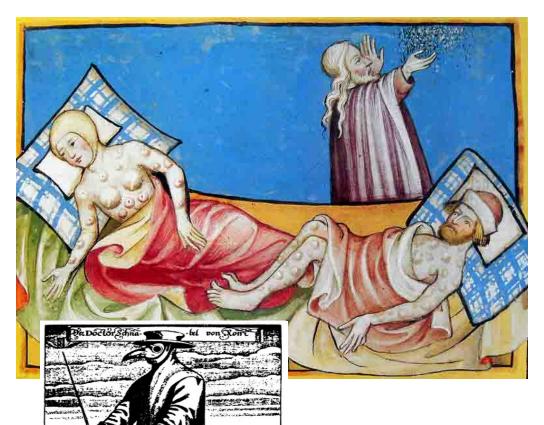
From the Virtual Biology Classroom on ScienceProfOnline.com

#### Prokaryotes... The "studio apartment" of cells.



#### Prokaryotes can be our foes...





Doctor beak from Roman engraving, 1656 Physician attire for protection from the Bubonic plague (a.k.a Black death).

#### Bubonic Plague

- a.k.a. Black Plague & Black Death
- Caused by bacteria Yersenia pestis.
- Several pandemics of plague have occurred throughout history.
- 50 million deaths between years 1346 50.
- Nearly 1/2 of Europe perished in this plague
- WATCH THIS!
   "Bring out your dead!" plague scene
   from Monty Python & Holy Grail.

Images: <u>Yersenia pestis</u>, CDC; <u>Black Death illustration</u>, Toggenburg Bible (1411); <u>Black Plague Physician Attire</u>,

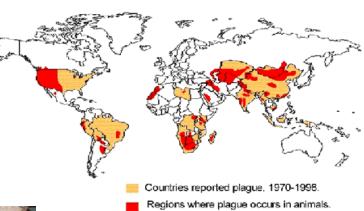
#### Ecology of Yersenia pestis

#### Bubonic Plague







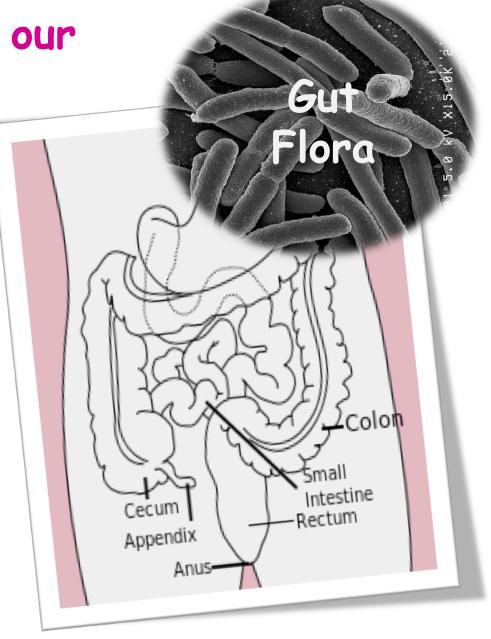




Images: Worldwide distribution of plague 1998, CDC; Waste in open market, frabood; Brown rat, National Park Service; Scanning electron micrograph of flea, CDC; Yersenia pestis, CDC

Prokaryotes can be our friends...

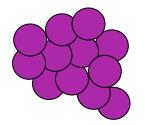
- Human body has ~ 100 trillion microbes in intestines (10x more than the total number of human cells in the body).
- Bacteria that live on and in us without usually causing harm are called normal flora.
- Bacteria = ~ 60% of the dry mass of poo.
- Relationship between gut flora and humans mutualistic ... win/win.
- Gut microbes perform many useful functions:
  - preventing growth of harmful, pathogenic bacteria
  - producing vitamins for host (such as biotin and vitamin K)
  - producing hormones to direct host to store fats
  - keeping our immune system on its toes



#### Prokaryotes

#### Staphylococcus





Coccus-shaped bacteria, which divides in a way that results in grape-like clusters.

- Staphylococcus aureus (golden staph), most common cause of staph infections.
- Approximately 20-30% of general population "Staph carriers."
- S. aureus can cause illnesses ranging from minor skin infections to life-threatening diseases, such as meningitis, toxic shock syndrome (TSS) & septicemia.
- MRSA = Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
- One of the four most common causes of nosocomial infections, often causing postsurgical wound infections.
- **S.** epidermidis is normal flora which inhabits the skin of healthy humans.



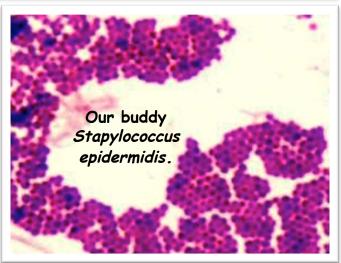
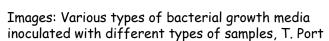


Image: Mannitol salt plates, T. Port; S. aureus, Janice Haney Carr, PHIL #10046; Gram stain Staph, T. Port

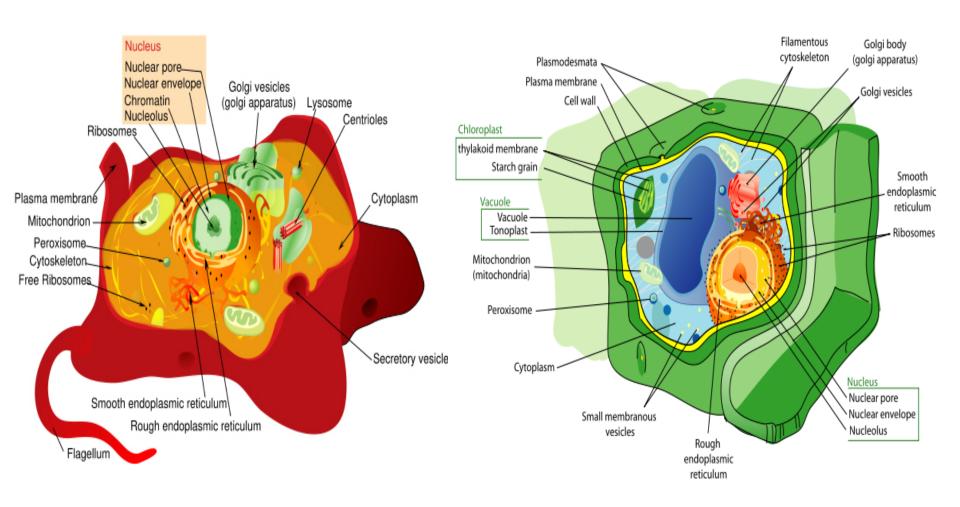
#### Prokaryotes

Bacteria are EVERYWHERE!





#### Eukaryotes... The "mansion" of cells.



## Eukaryotes...

are also everywhere.

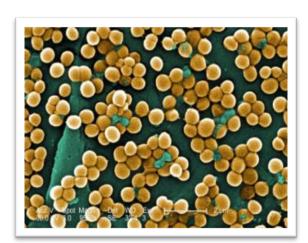
(Some are macroscopic. Some are microscopic.)



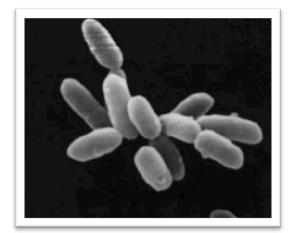
She likes to eat acorns, when playing outside.



# The Major Classifications of Living Things



Bacteria



Archaea



Protozoa

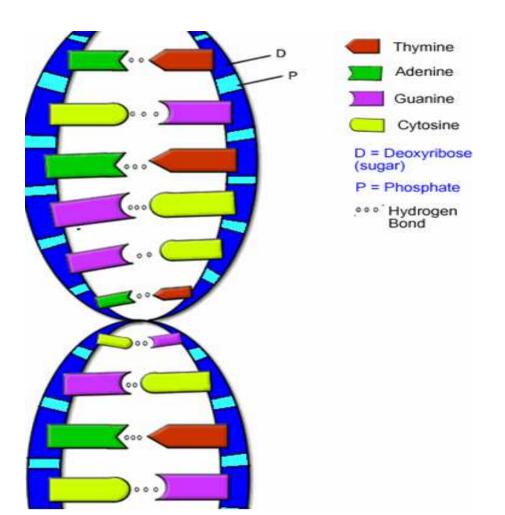




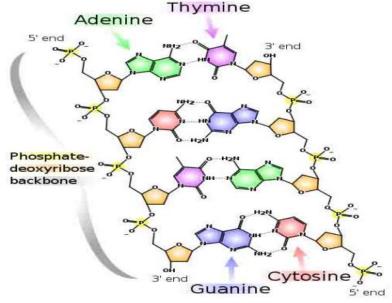
Plants Fungi Animals

## All biological cells have their instruction manual written in DNA

(deoxyribonucleic acid).







# Organisms, Cells & Viruses Evolve and Change Naturally and Artificially



Canis lupus - Gray Wolf



#### How Does Change Happen?

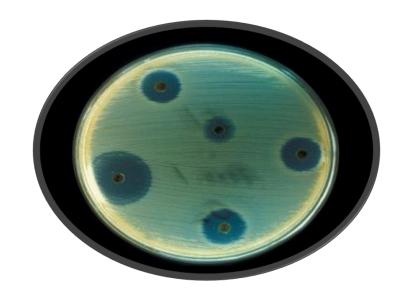
#### Mutations of Genes

- > A mutation is a change (mistake) in the DNA sequence; rare.
- Almost always bad news, but...
- Rarely leads to a protein having a novel property that improves ability of organism and its descendants to survive and reproduce.



# Mutations and Bacterial Change

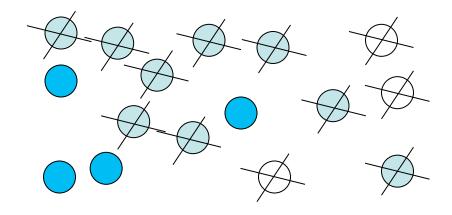
- Antibiotic Resistance = When a microorganism is able to survive exposure to an antibiotic.
- Genetic mutation in bacteria can produce resistance to antimicrobial drugs (example: beta-lactamase).
- If a bacterium carries several resistance genes, it is called multidrug resistant (MDR) or, informally, a superbug or super bacterium.
- Any use of antibiotics can increase selective pressure in a population of bacteria to allow the resistant bacteria to thrive and the susceptible bacteria to die off.



REVIEW!

Antibiotic Resistance

Animation
from Sumanas



#### Why should we care about biology?

 Human health care and treatment of diseases, such as plague & smallpox



(Smallpox is a deadly viral disease that was ERADICATED through widespread vaccination. We will talk about smallpox during our next class meeting when we discuss scientific method)

 Care and treatment of our natural resources and other organisms on earth



# Some Areas of Biological Study

- · Botany: Study of plants
- Zoology: Study of animals
- · Anatomy: Structures of organisms
- · Physiology: Functions within organisms
- Ecology: Study of how organism in an ecosystem interact with each other and their environment.
- Microbiology: Study of organisms too small to see with the naked eye

#### Confused?

#### Here are some links to fun resources that can help introduce you to biology:

- <u>"Science Is Real"</u> music video by They Might Be Giants.
- <u>Science Prof Online:</u> Free science education resource with virtual classrooms, biology PowerPoint lectures, laboratory exercises, practice test and review questions, science photos, videos and more.
- <u>Discovery Education</u>: Free science resources for students.
- <u>Cells Alive!</u> Website with many helpful biology animations and activities.
- "Put It To The Test" music video by They Might Be Giants.
- The Biology Project: Has tutorials and problem sets for learning biochemistry, cell, developmental, molecular, and human biology, Mendelian genetics and immunology.
- <u>"She Blinded Me With Science"</u> music video Thomas Dolby.

