Chapter 4

A Tour of the Cell

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Introduction

- Cells are the simplest collection of matter that can live.
- Cells were first observed by Robert Hooke in 1665.
- Working with more refined lenses, Antoni van Leeuwenhoek later described
 - blood,
 - sperm, and
 - organisms living in pond water.

Introduction

 Since the days of Hooke and Leeuwenhoek, improved microscopes have vastly expanded our view of the cell.

Figure 4.0_1 Chapter 4: Big Ideas



Introduction to the Cell



The Nucleus and Ribosomes



The Endomembrane System



Energy-Converting Organelles



The Cytoskeleton and Cell Surfaces

Figure 4.0_2



INTRODUCTION TO THE CELL

- A variety of microscopes have been developed for a clearer view of cells and cellular structure.
- The most frequently used microscope is the light microscope (LM)—like the one used in biology laboratories.
 - Light passes through a specimen, then through glass lenses, and finally light is projected into the viewer's eye.
 - Specimens can be magnified up to 1,000 times the actual size of the specimen.

- Magnification is the increase in the apparent size of an object.
- Resolution is a measure of the clarity of an image.
 In other words, it is the ability of an instrument to show two close objects as separate.

- Microscopes have limitations.
 - The human eye and the microscope have limits of resolution—the ability to distinguish between small structures.
 - Therefore, the light microscope cannot provide the details of a small cell's structure.

- Using light microscopes, scientists studied
 - microorganisms,
 - animal and plant cells, and
 - some structures within cells.
- In the 1800s, these studies led to cell theory, which states that
 - all living things are composed of cells and
 - all cells come from other cells.

Figure 4.1A



Figure 4.1B



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Figure 4.1C



Figure 4.1D



Figure 4.1E



4.2 The small size of cells relates to the need to exchange materials across the plasma membrane

Cell size must

- be large enough to house DNA, proteins, and structures needed to survive and reproduce, but
- remain small enough to allow for a surface-to-volume ratio that will allow adequate exchange with the environment.

Figure 4.2A



Total volume	27 units ³	27 units ³
Total surface area	54 units ²	162 units ²
Surface-to- volume ratio	2	6

4.2 The small size of cells relates to the need to exchange materials across the plasma membrane

- The plasma membrane forms a flexible boundary between the living cell and its surroundings.
- Phospholipids form a two-layer sheet called a phospholipid bilayer in which
 - hydrophilic heads face outward, exposed to water, and
 - hydrophobic tails point inward, shielded from water.

4.2 The small size of cells relates to the need to exchange materials across the plasma membrane

- Membrane proteins are either
 - attached to the membrane surface or
 - embedded in the phospholipid bilayer.
- Some proteins form channels or tunnels that shield ions and other hydrophilic molecules as they pass through the hydrophobic center of the membrane.
- Other proteins serve as pumps, using energy to actively transport molecules into or out of the cell.



4.3 Prokaryotic cells are structurally simpler than eukaryotic cells

- Bacteria and archaea are prokaryotic cells.
- All other forms of life are composed of eukaryotic cells.
 - Prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells have
 - a plasma membrane and
 - one or more chromosomes and ribosomes.
 - Eukaryotic cells have a
 - membrane-bound nucleus and
 - number of other organelles.
 - Prokaryotes have a nucleoid and no true organelles.

4.3 Prokaryotic cells are structurally simpler than eukaryotic cells

- The DNA of prokaryotic cells is coiled into a region called the nucleoid, but no membrane surrounds the DNA.
- The surface of prokaryotic cells may
 - be surrounded by a chemically complex cell wall,
 - have a capsule surrounding the cell wall,
 - have short projections that help attach to other cells or the substrate, or
 - have longer projections called **flagella** that may propel the cell through its liquid environment.

Figure 4.3



- The structures and organelles of eukaryotic cells perform four basic functions.
 - 1. The nucleus and ribosomes are involved in the genetic control of the cell.
 - The endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi apparatus, lysosomes, vacuoles, and peroxisomes are involved in the manufacture, distribution, and breakdown of molecules.

- **3.** Mitochondria in all cells and chloroplasts in plant cells are involved in energy processing.
- Structural support, movement, and communication between cells are functions of the cytoskeleton, plasma membrane, and cell wall.

- The internal membranes of eukaryotic cells partition it into compartments.
- Cellular metabolism, the many chemical activities of cells, occurs within organelles.

- Almost all of the organelles and other structures of animals cells are present in plant cells.
- A few exceptions exist.
 - Lysosomes and centrioles are not found in plant cells.
 - Plant but not animal cells have
 - a rigid cell wall,
 - chloroplasts, and
 - a central vacuole.







THE NUCLEUS AND RIBOSOMES

4.5 The nucleus is the cell's genetic control center

The nucleus

- contains most of the cell's DNA and
- controls the cell's activities by directing protein synthesis by making messenger RNA (mRNA).
- DNA is associated with many proteins in structures called chromosomes.

4.5 The nucleus is the cell's genetic control center

The nuclear envelope

- is a double membrane and
- has pores that allow material to flow in and out of the nucleus.
- The nuclear envelope is attached to a network of cellular membranes called the endoplasmic reticulum.

4.5 The nucleus is the cell's genetic control center

The nucleolus is

- a prominent structure in the nucleus and
- the site of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) synthesis.



4.6 Ribosomes make proteins for use in the cell and export

- Ribosomes are involved in the cell's protein synthesis.
 - Ribosomes are synthesized from rRNA produced in the nucleolus.
 - Cells that must synthesize large amounts of protein have a large number of ribosomes.

4.6 Ribosomes make proteins for use in the cell and export

- Some ribosomes are free ribosomes; others are bound.
 - Free ribosomes are
 - suspended in the cytoplasm and
 - typically involved in making proteins that function within the cytoplasm.
 - Bound ribosomes are
 - attached to the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) associated with the nuclear envelope and
 - associated with proteins packed in certain organelles or exported from the cell.
Figure 4.6



THE ENDOMEMBRANE SYSTEM

4.7 Overview: Many cell organelles are connected through the endomembrane system

- Many of the membranes within a eukaryotic cell are part of the endomembrane system.
- Some of these membranes are physically connected and some are related by the transfer of membrane segments by tiny vesicles (sacs made of membrane).
- Many of these organelles work together in the
 - synthesis,
 - storage, and
 - export of molecules.

4.7 Overview: Many cell organelles are connected through the endomembrane system

The endomembrane system includes

- the nuclear envelope,
- endoplasmic reticulum (ER),
- Golgi apparatus,
- lysosomes,
- vacuoles, and
- the plasma membrane.

4.8 The endoplasmic reticulum is a biosynthetic factory

- There are two kinds of endoplasmic reticulum smooth and rough.
 - **Smooth ER** lacks attached ribosomes.
 - Rough ER lines the outer surface of membranes.
 - Although physically interconnected, smooth and rough ER differ in structure and function.



Figure 4.8B



4.8 The endoplasmic reticulum is a biosynthetic factory

- Smooth ER is involved in a variety of diverse metabolic processes.
 - Smooth ER produces enzymes important in the synthesis of lipids, oils, phospholipids, and steroids.
 - Other enzymes help process drugs, alcohol, and other potentially harmful substances.
 - Some smooth ER helps store calcium ions.

4.8 The endoplasmic reticulum is a biosynthetic factory

Rough ER makes

- additional membrane for itself and
- proteins destined for secretions.

4.9 The Golgi apparatus finishes, sorts, and ships cell products

- The Golgi apparatus serves as a molecular warehouse and finishing factory for products manufactured by the ER.
 - Products travel in transport vesicles from the ER to the Golgi apparatus.
 - One side of the Golgi apparatus functions as a receiving dock for the product and the other as a shipping dock.
 - Products are modified as they go from one side of the Golgi apparatus to the other and travel in vesicles to other sites.



4.10 Lysosomes are digestive compartments within a cell

- A lysosome is a membranous sac containing digestive enzymes.
 - The enzymes and membrane are produced by the ER and transferred to the Golgi apparatus for processing.
 - The membrane serves to safely isolate these potent enzymes from the rest of the cell.

4.10 Lysosomes are digestive compartments within a cell

- Lysosomes help digest food particles engulfed by a cell.
 - 1. A food vacuole binds with a lysosome.
 - 2. The enzymes in the lysosome digest the food.
 - 3. The nutrients are then released into the cell.

Figure 4.10A_s1









4.10 Lysosomes are digestive compartments within a cell

- Lysosomes also help remove or recycle damaged parts of a cell.
 - 1. The damaged organelle is first enclosed in a membrane vesicle.
 - 2. Then a lysosome
 - fuses with the vesicle,
 - dismantles its contents, and
 - breaks down the damaged organelle.

Figure 4.10B_s1



Figure 4.10B_s2



Figure 4.10B_s3



4.11 Vacuoles function in the general maintenance of the cell

- Vacuoles are large vesicles that have a variety of functions.
 - Some protists have contractile vacuoles that help to eliminate water from the protist.
 - In plants, vacuoles may
 - have digestive functions,
 - contain pigments, or
 - contain poisons that protect the plant.



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4.12 A review of the structures involved in manufacturing and breakdown

 The following figure summarizes the relationships among the major organelles of the endomembrane system. Figure 4.12



ENERGY-CONVERTING ORGANELLES

4.13 Mitochondria harvest chemical energy from food

- Mitochondria are organelles that carry out cellular respiration in nearly all eukaryotic cells.
- Cellular respiration converts the chemical energy in foods to chemical energy in ATP (adenosine triphosphate).

4.13 Mitochondria harvest chemical energy from food

- Mitochondria have two internal compartments.
 - 1. The intermembrane space is the narrow region between the inner and outer membranes.
 - 2. The mitochondrial matrix contains
 - the mitochondrial DNA,
 - ribosomes, and
 - many enzymes that catalyze some of the reactions of cellular respiration.



4.14 Chloroplasts convert solar energy to chemical energy

- Chloroplasts are the photosynthesizing organelles of all photosynthesizing eukaryotes.
- Photosynthesis is the conversion of light energy from the sun to the chemical energy of sugar molecules.

4.14 Chloroplasts convert solar energy to chemical energy

- Chloroplasts are partitioned into compartments.
 - Between the outer and inner membrane is a thin intermembrane space.
 - Inside the inner membrane is
 - a thick fluid called **stroma** that contains the chloroplast DNA, ribosomes, and many enzymes and
 - a network of interconnected sacs called thylakoids.
 - In some regions, thylakoids are stacked like poker chips.
 Each stack is called a granum, where green chlorophyll molecules trap solar energy.

Figure 4.14



4.15 EVOLUTION CONNECTION: Mitochondria and chloroplasts evolved by endosymbiosis

- Mitochondria and chloroplasts have
 - DNA and
 - ribosomes.
- The structure of this DNA and these ribosomes is very similar to that found in prokaryotic cells.

4.15 EVOLUTION CONNECTION: Mitochondria and chloroplasts evolved by endosymbiosis

The endosymbiont theory proposes that

-mitochondria and chloroplasts were formerly small prokaryotes and

-they began living within larger cells.


THE CYTOSKELETON AND CELL SURFACES

4.16 The cell's internal skeleton helps organize its structure and activities

- Cells contain a network of protein fibers, called the cytoskeleton, which functions in structural support and motility.
- Scientists believe that motility and cellular regulation result when the cytoskeleton interacts with proteins called motor proteins.

4.16 The cell's internal skeleton helps organize its structure and activities

- The cytoskeleton is composed of three kinds of fibers.
 - 1. Microfilaments (actin filaments) support the cell's shape and are involved in motility.
 - 2. Intermediate filaments reinforce cell shape and anchor organelles.
 - **3. Microtubules** (made of tubulin) give the cell rigidity and act as tracks for organelle movement.



- While some protists have flagella and cilia that are important in locomotion, some cells of multicellular organisms have them for different reasons.
 - Cells that sweep mucus out of our lungs have cilia.
 - Animal sperm are flagellated.

Figure 4.17A





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Figure 4.17C





- A flagellum, longer than cilia, propels a cell by an undulating, whiplike motion.
- Cilia work more like the oars of a crew boat.
- Although differences exist, flagella and cilia have a common structure and mechanism of movement.

- Both flagella and cilia are made of microtubules wrapped in an extension of the plasma membrane.
- A ring of nine microtubule doublets surrounds a central pair of microtubules. This arrangement is
 - called the 9 + 2 pattern and
 - anchored in a basal body with nine microtubule triplets arranged in a ring.

- Cilia and flagella move by bending motor proteins called dynein feet.
 - These feet attach to and exert a sliding force on an adjacent doublet.
 - The arms then release and reattach a little further along and repeat this time after time.
 - This "walking" causes the microtubules to bend.

4.18 CONNECTION: Problems with sperm motility may be environmental or genetic

- In developed countries over the last 50 years, there has been a decline in sperm quality.
- The causes of this decline may be
 - environmental chemicals or
 - genetic disorders that interfere with the movement of sperm and cilia. Primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD) is a rare disease characterized by recurrent infections of the respiratory tract and immotile sperm.

4.19 The extracellular matrix of animal cells functions in support and regulation

- Animal cells synthesize and secrete an elaborate extracellular matrix (ECM) that
 - helps hold cells together in tissues and
 - protects and supports the plasma membrane.

4.19 The extracellular matrix of animal cells functions in support and regulation

 The ECM may attach to a cell through glycoproteins that then bind to membrane proteins called integrins. Integrins span the plasma membrane and connect to microfilaments of the cytoskeleton. Glycoprotein complex with long polysaccharide

Collagen fiber /

Connecting glycoprotein

Integrin <

Plasma membrane —

Microfilaments of cytoskelton



4.20 Three types of cell junctions are found in animal tissues

- Adjacent cells communicate, interact, and adhere through specialized junctions between them.
 - **Tight junctions** prevent leakage of extracellular fluid across a layer of epithelial cells.
 - Anchoring junctions fasten cells together into sheets.
 - Gap junctions are channels that allow molecules to flow between cells.



Figure 4.20

4.21 Cell walls enclose and support plant cells

- A plant cell, but not an animal cell, has a rigid cell wall that
 - protects and provides skeletal support that helps keep the plant upright against gravity and
 - is primarily composed of cellulose.
- Plant cells have cell junctions called plasmodesmata that serve in communication between cells.

Figure 4.21

