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Prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell comparison worksheet

Living beings or organisms are made up of cells. Some organisms may consist of a single cell (unicellule), such as bacteria, while others are made up of a lot of cells, such as a plant. With the invention of the electron microscope in the 20th century, scientists were able to see the structures within the cells more clearly. These structures are called organelles. It was noted that organisms in the animal, plant, fungal and protistic kingdoms had a cell membrane, cytoplasm and a visible nucleus containing the genetic material. These are called eukaryotic cells. Organisms such as bacteria are much smaller than eukaryotic cells. The genetic material of a bacterium is not in a nucleus - they are said to be prokaryotic cells. Genetic material is usually a single loop of DNA, and there may be one or more DNA rings called plasmid. Prokaryotic cells have cytoplasm and a cell membrane surrounded by a cell wall. Many (but not all) have a capsule surrounding the cell wall. Some prokaryotic cells may also have scourgies to help with movement. Organelles of eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells differ and have several jobs. Go see these organelles a little more closely: Nucleus- Contains the genetic material that the cell uses to make proteins. Cellular activities are controlled here. Like the control center of a cell. Cytoplasm - Jelly substance containing the organelles. A lot of chemical reactions happen here. Cell membrane - Controls substances entering and leaving the cell. A bit like the gates of the Houses of Parliament! Mitochondria - Very small structures in the cytoplasm where breathing takes place, releasing energy for the cell. Ribosomes - Makes all proteins necessary for the cell through gene translation. Some organelles are found only in plant cells, such as chloroplasts, cell wall and vacuoles. Let's see their work below: Chloroplasts - contain a green pigment called chlorophyll that absorbs sunlight for photosynthesis, the process plants use to make glucose. Vacuole - sometimes called the permanent vacuole. It is a space in the middle of the cell filled with cell sap, maintains the rigid plant to support the plant. Cell wall - made of long cellulose fibers to make the cell stronger, and supports the plant. Prokaryotic cells have some similar characteristics to eukaryotic cells, such as the cytoplasm, cell membrane and cell walls. However, the cell wall in prokaryotes is made of a different substance than in plants and their role is to maintain the shape of the cell and protect the cell. The cytoplasm and cell membrane play roles similar to those of eukaryotic cells. In the following activity, you will compare the and functions of eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells. FreeReport a problemThese resource is designed for UK teachers. See US version . .

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