

# The Unit of Life — Cells

- The **cell** is a **single unit of life**.
- The **different parts of a plant cell** are the **cell wall**, **cell membrane**, **cytoplasm**, **nucleus** and **chloroplasts**.
- The **different parts of an animal cell** are the **cell membrane**, **cytoplasm** and **nucleus**.

There are similarities and differences between a plant cell and an animal cell.

Characteristics	Animal cell	Plant cell
Similarities	• Both have cytoplasm, a cell membrane, a nucleus and vacuole(s).	
Differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No cellulose cell wall, so the animal cell has an irregular shape</li><li>• No chloroplasts, so the animal cell cannot make its own food</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has a cellulose cell wall to support the plant cell and give it its regular shape</li><li>• Has chloroplasts which contain chlorophyll, enabling the green plant to make food during photosynthesis</li></ul>

- A cell divides to produce new cells to replace dead and damaged ones. This division is necessary for an organism to grow.

## More!

Most cells contain a nucleus. Without the nucleus, the cell will die.

However, the red blood cell is an exception. It has no nucleus, yet it is able to survive.

Adapted:

Science Partner Upper Block 5/6

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