Cells: The building blocks of life







Introduction

Understanding the structure and function of cells is vital in understanding the biology of living things from a single cell organism like a bacterium to the gigantic blue whale.

This resource looks at different types of cells and explores what is inside them, their functions and careers that make use of the knowledge of cells.

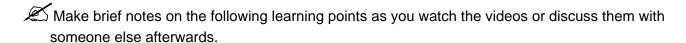
Understanding cells is the beginning of a journey to understanding how we grow, fight infections and illnesses such as cancer.



Watch the exciting 1 minute BBC mini video clips where the presenters build an animated animal cell here and a plant cell here



Watch the short 7 minute video on **cell structure** here



- 1. The difference between Prokaryotes and Eukaryotes.
- 2. The difference between plant and animal cells.
- 3. The functions of the different parts of the cells.

Your challenge

Take the quiz here to check you have mastered cells and their functions.

Careers that make use of cells

Watch the case study here and discover how a forensic scientist analyses cells to help solve crimes.

Find out here how a sports therapist uses his knowledge of specialised cells to help his clients.

