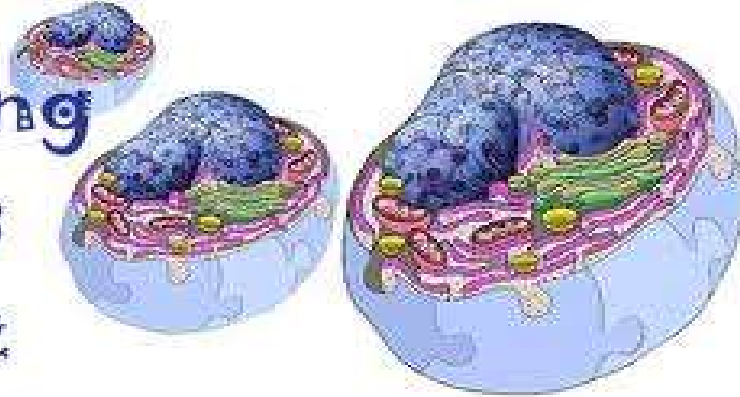


## Living organisms



## Building Blocks of Life



They also differ in size and shape. They are called as building blocks of life. They look very different from each other. These building blocks are called as CELLS. They differ in shape and size.

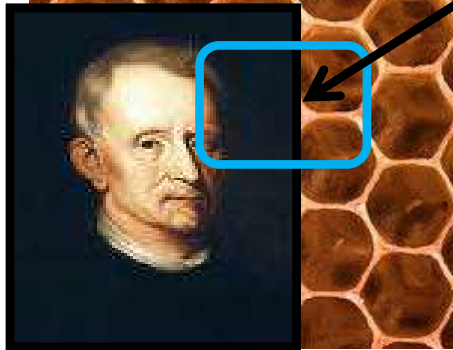
So how do we define a cell ?



**Cell is the common basic, structural and functional unit of living beings.**

## DISCOVERY OF CELLS

In the year **1665**



**Robert Hooke**

He labelled them as

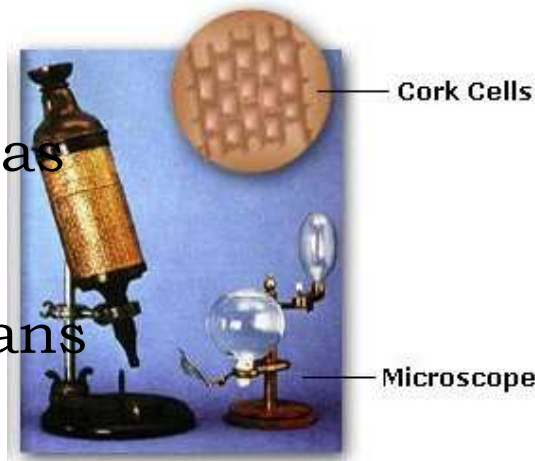
**Cells**

In Latin cells means  
'small rooms'

Observed a thin slice of cork  
There were  
**EMPTY COMPARTMENTS**  
Which resembled

**Structure of honey comb**

Under a self designed  
microscope

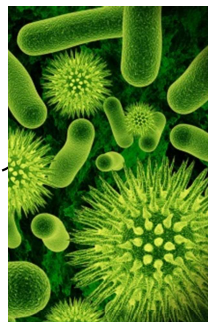
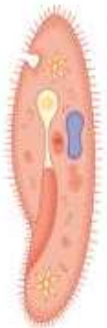


# Living Organisms are of two types

## Unicellular

In unicellular organisms, all functions are carried out by the single cell

E.g. Chlamydomonas, Paramoecium, bacteria etc.



## Multicellular

Many cells group together in a single body and assume different functions in it to form various body parts.

E.g. Some fungi, plants and animals.



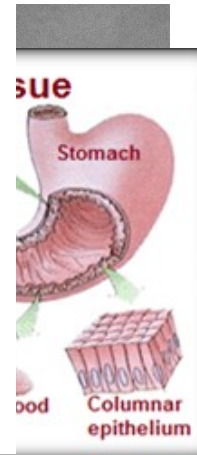
# CELL THEORY

The first theory was proposed by Matthias Schleiden and Theodor Schwann (1838-39).

It states that "All plants & animals are composed of cells and cell is the basic unit of life."

In 1838, Matthias Schleiden suggested that

"all plants are made of cells"



With the discovery of electron microscope in 1940,  
it was easy to understand the complex structure of a cell.

