

## **Parts of a Cell**

**organelle**: a specialized part of a cell having some specific function; a cell organ; a structure in the cytoplasm of a cell

**ribosome**: a tiny organelle occurring in great numbers in cell cytoplasm; functions as the site of protein manufacture

**vacuole**: membrane-bound cavity within a cell containing a watery liquid

**endoplasmic reticulum**: tubular membranes within the cytoplasm of the cell; occurring either with a smooth surface (smooth endoplasmic reticulum) or studded with ribosomes (rough endoplasmic reticulum); involved in the transport of materials

**centrioles**: a small, cylindrical cell organelle, near the nucleus; takes part in cell division

**nucleolus**: a small rounded body within a nucleus that contains RNA and protein; involved in the production of ribosomes; (nucleole)

**cell wall**: the outer layer of a plant cell; made of cellulose; it gives mechanical support to the cell

**flagellum**: a long, lash-like appendage serving as an organ of locomotion in many types of cells

**vesicle**: a membrane-bound sac in cells that stores or transports the products of metabolism in the cell and is sometimes the site for the breaking down of metabolic wastes; vesicles bulge out and break off from the endoplasmic reticulum and the Golgi apparatus

**DNA**: deoxyribonucleic acid; an extremely long macromolecule that is the main component of chromosomes and is the material that transfers genetic characteristics in all life forms

**mitochondria**: an organelle in the cytoplasm of cells that functions in energy production

**nucleus**: a specialized, usually spherical mass of protoplasm encased in a double membrane and found in most living cells; it directs the cell's growth, metabolism and reproduction

**cell membrane**: the semi-permeable membrane enclosing the cytoplasm of a cell

**lysosome**: an organelle containing enzymes that digest particles and disintegrates the cell after its death

**cytoplasm**: the substance between the cell membrane and the nucleus that contains the various organelles of the cell

**amyloplast**: a starch-forming granule in cells

**microtubules**: a hollow cylindrical structure in the cytoplasm of most cells; involved in in intracellular shape and transport