

Topic: Cell Theory

Learning Objective/Outcomes:

Understand that all organisms are composed of one or more cells.
Explain the three parts of cells theory.

Keywords/Questions

Notes

Who is Robert Hooke?

Robert Hooke, an English scientist in 1665, was the first person to describe cells using a microscope

Where did Hooke come up with the name for cells?

Looking at a thin slice of cork he was reminded of little rooms in a monastery so he named them *cellula* or *small room* in Latin → now called cells

What are cells?

The smallest living biological structure, and most are microscopic

List characteristics of cells.

Surrounded by a plasma membrane with internal structures suspended in cytoplasm.

What are the three main ideas of the cell theory?

All organisms are made of one or more cells
Cells are the basic building blocks of life
All cells come from existing cells

Who created the cell theory?

Robert Hooke

Summary

Cells were discovered to be the smallest unit of life by Robert Hooke in 1665. After their discovery, scientists, Schwann and Rudolph, developed the cell theory which has held true to this day. Their main points included that all organisms are made of one or more cells, cells are the basic building block of life, and that all cells come from existing cells.

