

6.12CD Classification of Organisms Vocabulary

Term:	Definition:	Picture:
Organism	An individual form of life that is capable of growing, metabolizing nutrients, and usually reproducing	
Taxonomy	The branch of science that formally names and classifies organisms by their structure, function, and relationships	
Domains	The highest level of the taxonomic hierarchy; includes three groups: Archaea, Bacteria, and Eukarya	
Domain Archaea	a domain: consists of a specialized group of unicellular prokaryotes that can live in extreme environments.	
Domain Bacteria	a domain: includes prokaryotic, single celled organisms that lack a membrane enclosed nucleus and can be classified by shape: spherical, rod, or spiral	
Domain Eukarya	a domain: has cells that contain a membrane enclosed nucleus	

Kingdoms	The second highest level in the taxonomic hierarchy; contains six (6) groups: Archaea, Bacteria, Protista, Fungi, Plantae, and Animalia.	
Kingdom Archaeobacteria	Kingdom of prokaryotic, single celled organisms that live in extreme environments.	
Kingdom Eubacteria	Kingdom of prokaryotic, single celled organisms that lack a membrane enclosed nucleus and can be classified by shape: spherical, rod, or spiral.	
Kingdom Animalia	Kingdom of heterotrophic eukaryotes that includes all animals.	
Kingdom Fungi	Kingdom of heterotrophic eukaryotes that reproduce through asexual spores and have cell walls.	
Kingdom Plantae	Kingdom of autotrophic eukaryotes that includes all plants.	
Kingdom Protista	Kingdom of single celled and simple multiple celled eukaryotic organisms.	
Prokaryotic Cell	A small cell lacking a nucleus or any other membrane-enclosed organelle	
Eukaryotic Cell	A cell containing a membrane-enclosed nucleus and organelles.	

Unicellular	A category of organisms made up of one cell.	
Multicellular	A category of organisms made up of more than one cell and of different types of cells.	
Autotrophic	An organism that is able to make its own food	
Heterotrophic	An organism that must consume other organisms for energy.	
Reproduction	The process by which organisms produce more of their own kind.	
Sexual Reproduction	The reproductive process involving two parents whose genetic material is combined to produce a new organism different from themselves.	
Asexual Reproduction	The reproductive process that involves one parent and produces offspring identical to the parent. Exact copy of the parent cell - budding, fission, spore formation	
Structure	The arrangement of parts that form a living thing.	
Function	What something does	