

STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS OF LIVING ORGANISMS VOCABULARY

Single cell: single-celled, or **unicellular** (one cell), organisms perform all life processes within a single cell. Bacteria and protozoa are two types of tiny single-celled organisms. Each single-celled organism must find its own resources, such as food, water, and air.

Multi-cell: Multi-celled, or **multi-cellular** (many cells), organisms may have many different kinds of cells. Each type of cell has its own purpose

Organisms: an individual living thing (person, animal, or plant)

Circulatory system: the system of organs and tissues, including the **heart, blood, blood vessels**, involved in circulating blood through the body.

Blood vessel: a small tube that carries blood to different parts of a person

Respiratory system: the system by which oxygen is taken into the body and an exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide takes place; in mammals the system includes the **nose, trachea, and lungs**

Trachea: The trachea, or windpipe, is a tube that allows air to pass to the lungs. It is lined by a mucous membrane that traps particles that were able to travel through the nose. Close to the lungs, the trachea divides into two branches called the bronchial tubes

Skeletal system: The framework of the body, consisting of **bones**, which protects and supports the body tissues and internal organ.

Muscular system: The system in the body composed of **muscles** and tissues that bring about movement of an organ or body part.

Digestive system: the system by which ingested food is acted upon by physical and chemical means to provide the body with absorbable nutrients. This includes the **mouth, esophagus, stomach, small intestine, and large intestine**.

Esophagus: A stretchy pipe that is about 10 inches long. It moves food from the back of your throat to your stomach.

Small intestine: a tube that is connected to the stomach. The small intestine breaks down food that you digest so your body can absorb all the vitamins, minerals, proteins, carbohydrates and fats. The nutrients broken down then pass to your large intestine or into your bloodstream

Large intestine: a larger tube that is connected to the small intestine. As food is squeezed through your small intestine, useful bits are taken into your bloodstream. Your large intestine gets the rest of the watery mixture.

Nervous system: the system of nerves and nerve centers in an animal or human, including the **brain, spinal cord, nerves**

Spinal cord: The spinal cord is the part of the nervous system that connects the brain to the rest of the nervous system. The spinal cord is like a “rope” of nerves that sends messages to the brain.

Nerves: a bundle of fibers that carry messages to and from the body to the brain, so the brain can interpret them and take action