Unicellular vs. Multicellular

'aragraph 1 It is amazing to note that some elementary graders are already versed with the different types of beings, or cells, present in the world. Much to our amazement, it was discovered that lots of older people, up to this time, don't know what unicellular and multicellular organisms are. Perhaps they just need to go back to grade school!

aragraph 2 Anyway, unicellular organisms, as indicated by their name, are composed of only one cell. Due to this characteristic, they are also usually smaller in size, and are simpler organisms.

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Generally, unicellular organisms fall under the umbrella of the prokaryotes, or prokaryotic entities. They are termed as <u>prokaryotes</u> because they are not that specialized, unlike the more complex eukaryotes. Unicellular organisms and the prokaryotes do not have the structure called the cell nuclei. Moreover, their bodies are very limited in size, because they cannot handle certain surface area to volume ratio issues. The result of this, is that unicellular organisms are mostly microscopic in nature. They are so minute, that they are not visible to the naked eye.

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Besides from not having a cell nucleus, prokaryotes are those that don't have internal organ bodies, covered in organic coats which are termed as membranes. They are also those that often dwell in habitats which are too hazardous to support life, like the very acidic environments, and radiation-filled areas. Examples of unicellular organisms are bacteria and archea.

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On the other hand, multicellular organisms are those that house a multiple number, or many, cell types. These organisms are usually larger in size, have more specialized functions, and are classified as the eukaryotes. These organisms are termed as <u>eukaryotes</u> because they have cell nuclei, and have their DNAs differently placed from the remainder of the cell. Due to these facts, they can actually grow to bigger sizes; they can conduct more complex activities or functions, and their cells permanently act harmoniously with each other.

Although these organisms can grow exponentially to amazing sizes, some of them are also classified as microscopic (Myxozoa). In general, common examples of multicellular organisms are the following: Animals, plants, fungi, human-beings, and as mentioned, a specialized type of parasitic animal called Myxozoa.

- 1. Unicellular organisms have one cell, while multicellular organisms are composed of many different types of cells.
- 2. Unicellular organisms are mostly prokaryotes, while multicellular organisms are generally classified as eukaryotes.
- 3. Unicellular organisms are usually smaller (often always microscopic in nature) and less complex compared to their more visible and complex multicellular counterparts.

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