

Warm Up to Science

TEKS-Based Engagement Activities

Biology



The table below was created to describe four organisms.

	Organism A	Organism B	Organism C	Organism D
Number of cells	unicellular	multicellular	unicellular	multicellular
Cell type	prokaryotic	eukaryotic	eukaryotic	eukaryotic
Mode of nutrition	heterotroph	autotroph	autotroph	heterotroph
Other	found in extreme environments	has a cell wall with cellulose	motile	has a cell wall with chitin

Determine to which kingdom each organism belongs based on its characteristics. Explain your thinking.

Reporting Category 3: Biological Evolution and Classification

TEKS

B.8C: The student is expected to compare characteristics of taxonomic groups, including archaea, bacteria, protists, fungi, plants and animals.

B.2G: The student is expected to analyze, evaluate, make inferences, and predict trends from data.

Answer

	Archaea	Plantae	Protista	Fungi
Number of cells	unicellular	multicellular	unicellular	multicellular
Cell type	prokaryotic	eukaryotic	eukaryotic	eukaryotic
Mode of nutrition	heterotroph	autotroph	autotroph	heterotroph
Other	found in extreme environments	has a cell wall with cellulose	motile	has a cell wall with chitin

Teacher Notes

Organisms can be classified into groups based on shared physical or structural characteristics. Kingdoms are the least specific of all the taxa and contain many organisms. When you debrief, have students describe the key characteristic(s) that allowed them to place the organism into the kingdom.