Cells are the building blocks of all living things. They are composed of smaller parts called **organelles** and each has its own specific function. These are described below. The diagram shows a typical animal cell.

* **Mitochondria Typical Animal Cell**Mitochondria are the powerhouse of the cell, which
release energy from food.
* **Ribosomes**

Ribosomes are microscopic factories that produce the
proteins used by the body for growth and repair.

* **Lysosomes**

Lysosomes are the garbage disposal units that get rid
of the wastes from the cell.

* **Endoplasmic Reticulum**

Endoplasmic reticulum form pathways that allow
materials to move quickly and easily through the cell.

**Plant Cells**

Plants have the same parts as animal cells plus a few extra parts.
The diagram shows a typical plant cell. Like animal cells, plant
cells have a cell membrane, cytoplasm and a nucleus.

  **Typical Plant Cell**The vacuole in plant cells is much larger than in animal cells.

Plant cells also have the following organelles:

* **Cell Wall**The cell wall helps support the plant and gives it shape.
* **Chloroplasts**

Chloroplasts contain chlorophyll and are the site
of photosynthesis.

**Fungal Cells**

Cells of fungi have the same cells as animal cells.

Fungal cells have a cell wall like plant cells but don’t have
chloroplasts and therefore cannot make their own food. Fungi
digest the material they grow on and absorb it into their cells.

 **Typical Fungal Cell**