

The Living World

This presentation will cover the first chapter of class 11 from NCERT book which is about the very basics and concepts of biology that every biology student must understand.

Characteristic Features of Living Organisms

The first characteristic feature of living organisms is growth. There are two aspects of growth:

- Increase in cell mass (growth of cytoplasm) at the cellular level
- Increase in the number of cells through cell division

During cell division in a unicellular organism, the number of cells is increasing. This can be considered as both growth and reproduction because the organism is producing progeny that is similar to itself. However, reproduction is not the defining feature of living organisms as there are many sterile organisms like mules, sterile worker bees, and infertile human couples that are still living organisms.

Metabolism is a defining characteristic of all living organisms without exception. Every living organism has consciousness and can sense their surroundings