

## KINGDOM PROTISTA

- ◆ Examples: Amoeba, Paramecium, Euglena, Volvox, protozoa, and some algae
- ◆ Microscopic but larger than Monerans
- ◆ Eukaryotic – Inside the cell, there are specialised structures called organelles which are surrounded by membranes, such as nucleus (containing DNA), chloroplasts (for photosynthesis), and mitochondria (for respiration).
- ◆ Most are unicellular. This means that each protist cell exists as an individual with no cooperation with other cells. Unicellular cells, however, can live linked to other cells in filaments or colonies.
- ◆ Some move by whiplike flagella, and others move by hairlike cilia.
- ◆ Some can photosynthesise like a plant, some ingest food like an animal, and some can absorb nutrients like fungi.

*Refer to the diagrams in your textbook.*

### Did You Know...?

- ◆ Scientists who believe in the theory of evolution believe that eukaryotic cells may have formed when smaller prokaryotic bacteria invaded and lived inside larger prokaryotic bacteria in a symbiotic relationship. Evidence for this idea comes from the fact that mitochondria (organelles responsible for respiration) and chloroplasts (organelles responsible for photosynthesis) both contain DNA.
- ◆ If *Paramecia* are kept in the light, they photosynthesise like a plant, but if they are kept in the dark, they become heterotrophic or "eat" like an animal.