Protista

- Protists are eukaryotic organisms that are often grouped and referred to as plant-like or animal-like or fungus-like.
- Often found in aquatic environments or damp soils. Some are parasites.
- Have been on earth for 1.7 billion years.
- Most are single celled but some like kelp are multicellular and can be 100 feet tall.
- Some are autotrophic (plant-like) and others are heterotrophic (animal-like and fungus-like).
- They mainly reproduce asexually.

In many ways, protists are grouped to together in a kingdom because they lack the characteristics that would let them fit into any other kingdom.

Protozoans (Animal-Like Protists)

- unicellular.
- heterotrophic.
- most live in aquatic environments and moist soils.
- some are parasitic living inside hosts.
 (Trypanosoma protozoa can cause sleeping sickness in humans)

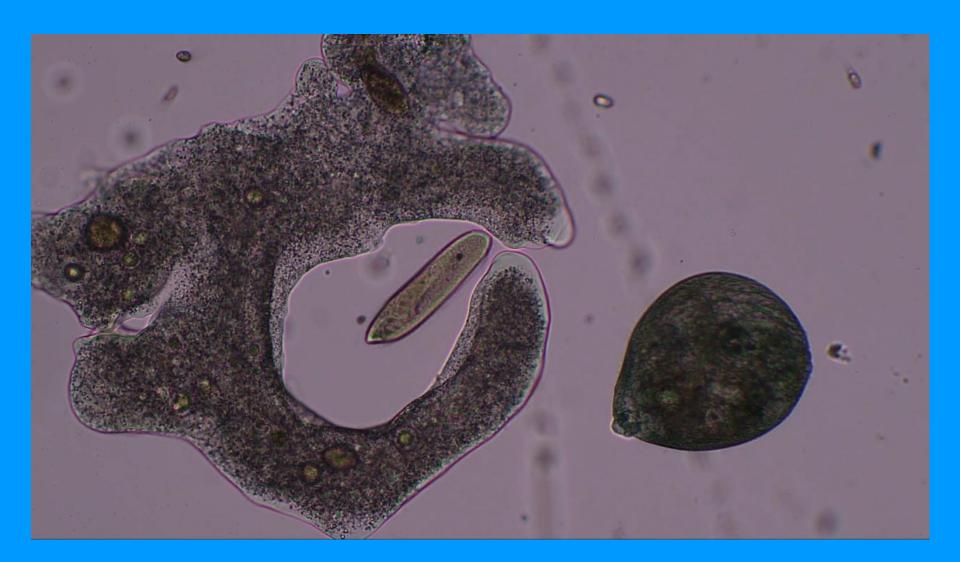
Four main groups of protozoans

- Amoeboid Protozoans aquatic and moist soils, move via pseudopods.
 - Example: amoeba
- 2. Flagellated Protozoans some free-living some parasitic, move via flagella.
 - Example: euglena
- 3. Ciliated Protozoans always aquatic, move via cilia.
 - Example: paramecium
- **4. Sporozoans** produce spores, most are parasitic. Example: plasmodium (which leads to malaria)

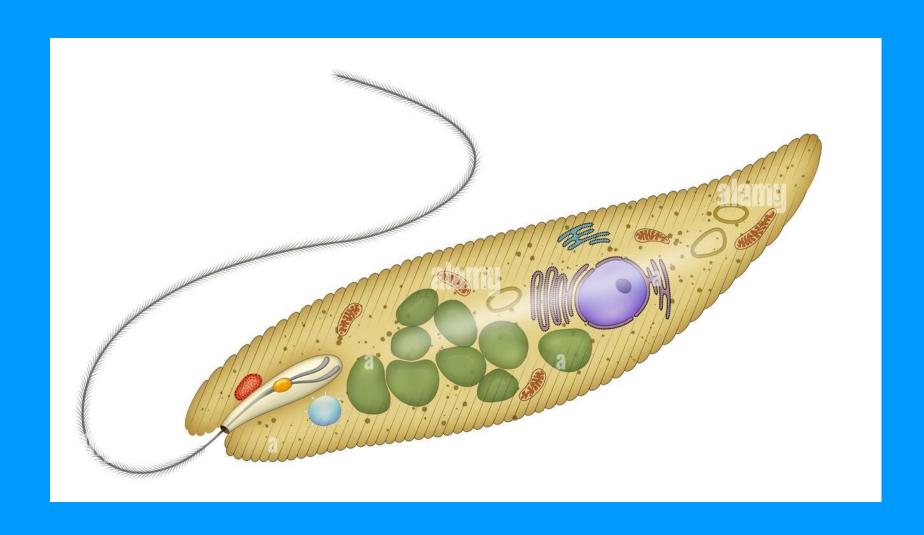
Amoeboid Protozoans Move by pseudopods.



Amoeba eating

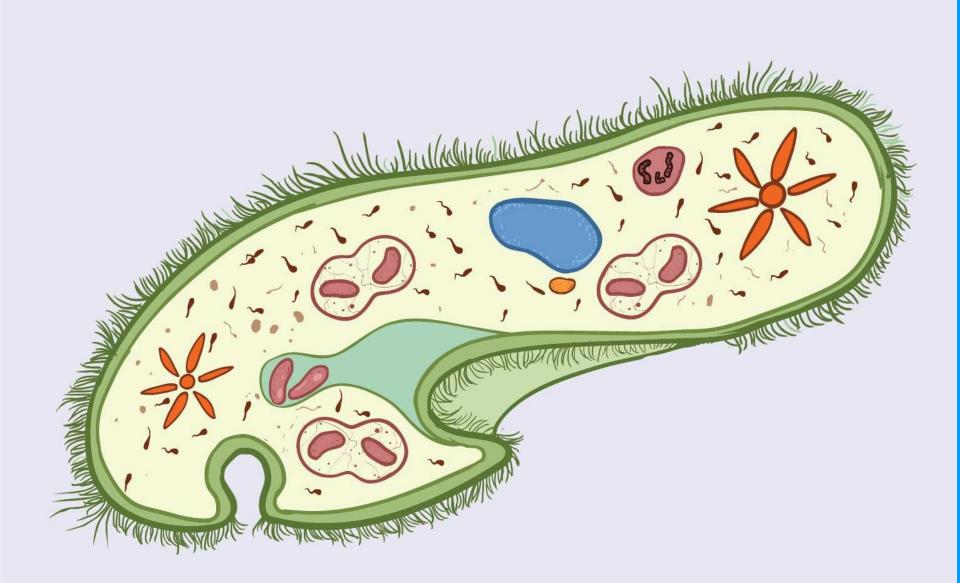


Flagellated Protozoans



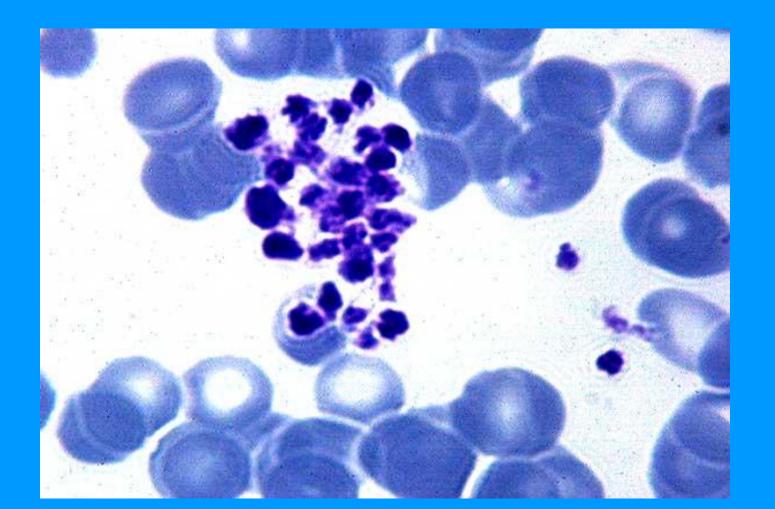
Ciliated - Protozoans

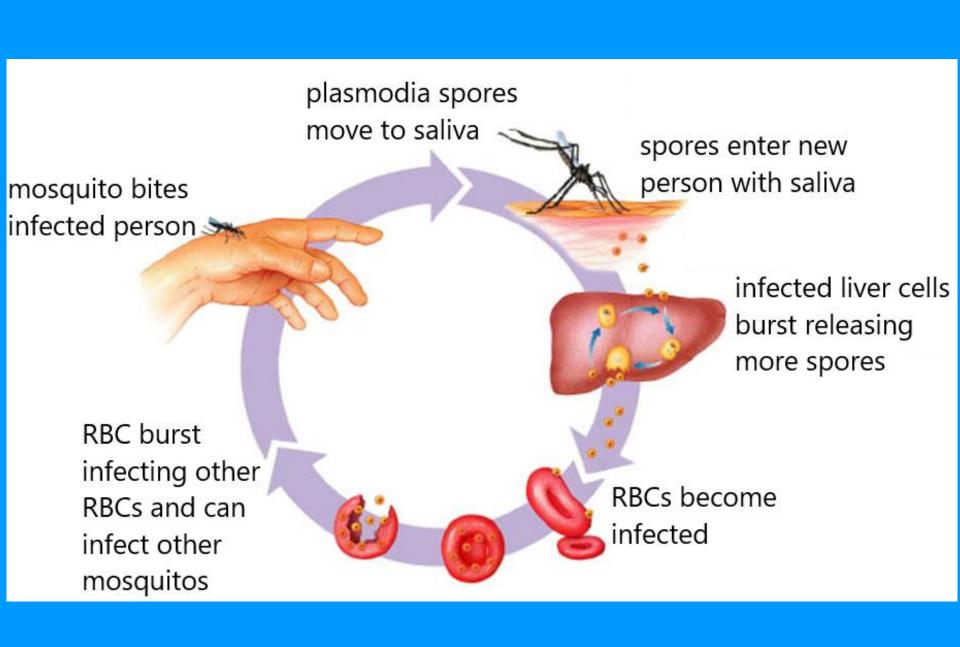




Sporozoans

Plasmodia are parasitic protozoa that can cause malaria.





Plant-Like Protists

- are both photosynthetic and aquatic.
- many are referred to as green or brown or red algae.
- both unicellular and multicellular.
- others are divided into three groups;
- 1. Chrysophytes
- 2. Dinoflagellates
- 3. Euglenoids

Chrysophytes

- (aka diatoms)
- form phytoplankton in oceans which are both the foundation of marine ecosystems but also produce a tremendous amount of atmospheric oxygen.

Diatoms



Dinoflagellates

exhibit bioluminescence can cause red tide.



Bioluminescence



Euglenoids

- Unique plant and animal like organisms.
- In the presence of light they photosynthesize
- In the absence of light they feed on other smaller organisms.

Euglenoids





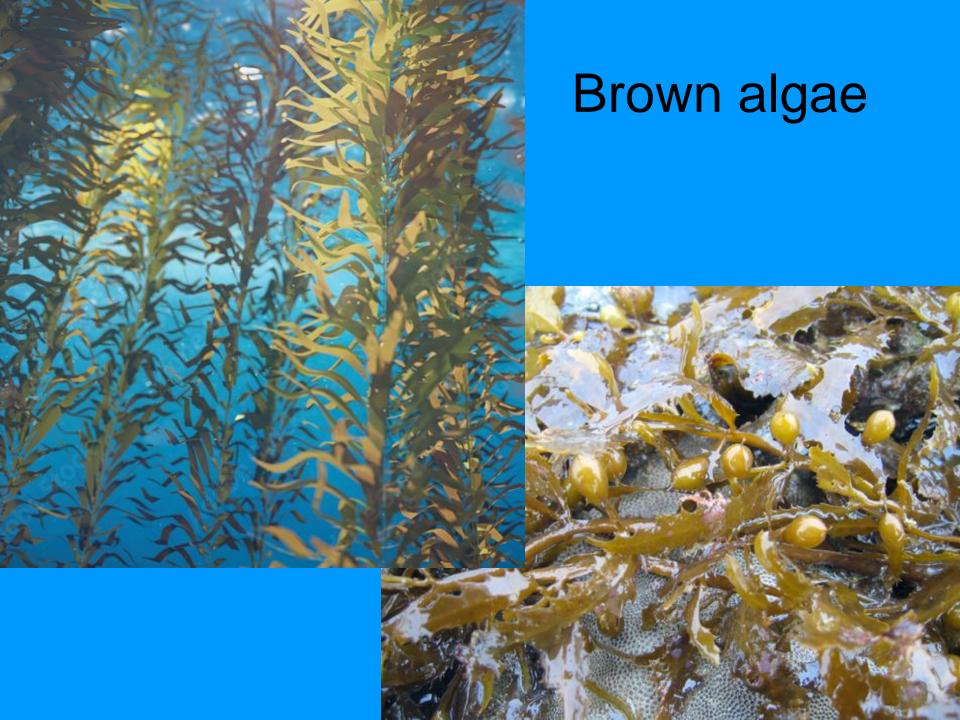
Green algae



Red algae







Fungal-Like Protists

- They are decomposers.
- Heterotrophic
- Slime Molds are examples



Slime mold



Slime mold



Slime mold

