

Discussion Questions

Name: _____

Date: _____

Where did the protozoa come from? How did the population grow? Did you find bacteria? Compare them.

The protozoa were present in the water from the pond, stream or puddle from which the water was collected. With the sunlight, water and hay, bacteria present in the water and/or hay started to increase in number. The protozoa increased in number because their food supply increased in number.

Bacteria: single-celled, no nucleus, bacteria can absorb nutrients through their cell walls, reproduce via simple binary fission

Protozoa: single-celled, nucleus, contain organelles, protozoa "eat" by enveloping their prey within small pockets called vacuoles, some reproduce by binary fission, some split into more than two offspring, and some reproduce sexually

How did the protozoa in your sample move? How do multicellular organisms move?

Protozoa: Cilia, flagella, pseudopods etc.

Multicellular: Depends on animal – swimming, crawling, walking, sliding (big movements), smaller multicellular similar to protozoa.

What do you think protozoa eat? How do they eat? Do they breathe? Compare this to multicellular organisms.

Eating: Bacteria, other protozoa, algae, fungi

They envelop their prey within vacuoles

Breathing: Protozoa take in oxygen and give off carbon dioxide through the cell membrane.

Depending on the type of multicellular organism – lungs (mammals), spiracles, or tracheal system (insects, arachnids), gills (fish), skin (amphibians, worms)

Can you think of anything that might eat protozoan?

Other protozoa, larger animals etc.