Animal Complexity and Body Plans

- 34 different phyla of multicellular animals
- About 100 phyla generated during "Cambrian explosion"
- Animal body plans well-defined and established early in evolutionary history
- Many animals share a common architecture

Organization of Animal Complexity

- **Unicellular organisms**
  - Protozoa = single-celled organisms
  - Not classified as Animals, but "animal-like"
  - High levels of organization within the cell
  - Perform all basic functions of life
- **Multicellular organisms**
  - Metazoa = multi-celled organisms
  - True animals
  - Cells organized into larger units, individual cells cannot survive alone

Organization of Animal Complexity

Grades or Levels of Organization

Unicellular (Protozoans)

1. **Protoplasmic**
   - All functions occur within cell

Multicellular (Metazoans)

2. **Cellular**
   - Group of cells with different functions
3. **Tissue**
   - Aggregation of similar cells into layers
4. **Organ**
   - Organization of tissues into organs
5. **System**
   - Organs working together to perform function

Organization of Animal Complexity

Body size

- **Complex organization promotes evolution of large body size**

Some advantages of large body size

- **Able to tolerate environmental variation**
- **Predator avoidance**
  - **Morphology**
  - **Behavior**

See Figures 3.16 and 3.17 in ebook

- **Food acquisition**
- **Metabolically efficient**
  - **Absolute energy demands higher for large animals but,**
  - **RELATIVE energy demands (per unit body weight) are LOWER**

Organization of Animal Complexity

Body size

- **Disadvantages of large body size**

Problem: surface area increases, but at a slower rate than body volume

- **Surface area > as (body length)^2**
- **Volume > as (body length)^3**

Why is it a problem?

- **Physiological processes of nutrient, gas, and waste exchange often occur across surfaces**

Solutions:

1. **Folds in body surface**
2. **Development of internal transport systems**

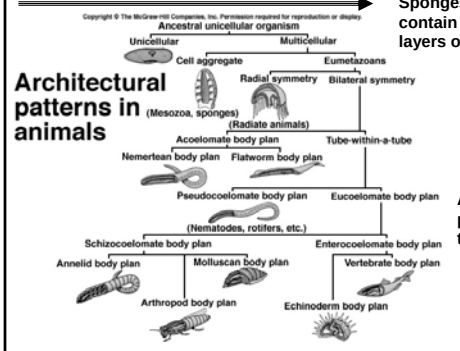
Body Plans

- **Number of animal body plans is limited**

Basic characteristics that have evolved

- **Multicellular organization**
- **Symmetry**
- **Body cavity**
- **True coelom**
- **Segmentation**
- **Cephalization**

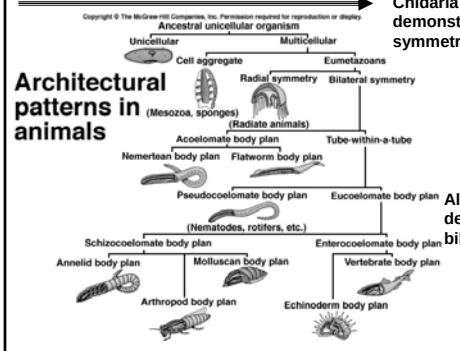
1st Major Variation in Body Plan



Sponges (Ph. Porifera) contain no germ layers or organs

All other animals possess true tissues

2nd Major Variation in Body Plan



Cnidaria and Ctenophora demonstrate radial symmetry

All other animals demonstrate bilateral symmetry

Animal Symmetry

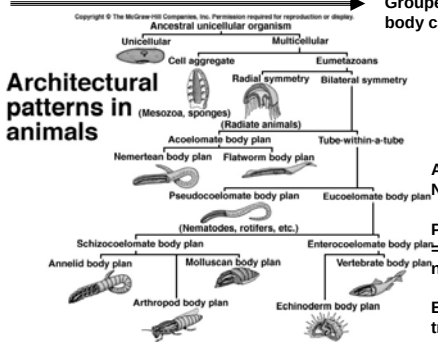
Correspondence in size or shape on two sides of a plane

1. **Radial**
   - **Cnidarians, Ctenophors, some sponges, and sea urchins**
   - **Usually sessile, free floating animals**
   - **Can interact with environment from all sides**
2. **Bilateral**
   - **Major evolutionary advance**
   - **Well suited for forward movement**

See Figures 3.1 and 3.2 in ebook

3rd Major Variation in Body Plan

Grouped by type of body cavity or coelom



Acoelomates = No body cavity

Pseudocoelomates = body cavity but not a true coelom

Eucoelomates = true coelom

Why is the evolution of a body cavity important?

- Tube-within-a-tube allows greater flexibility
- Space for organs
- Exposes more cells to surface exchange

What are the differences?

1. Acoelomates
   - No true body cavity – space filled with parenchyma
2. Pseudocoelomates
   - Have body cavity but not a true coelom since it's not derived from mesoderm
3. Eucoelomates
   - Possess true coelom that is derived from mesoderm

See Figure 3.9 in ebook

Body plans

Two major body plans:

1) Deuterostome ("2nd mouth") animals
   - Radial cleavage
   - Blastopore becomes anus
   - Echinoderms, Hemichordates, and Chordates
   - All are true eucoelomates

2) Protostome ("1st mouth") animals
   - Spiral cleavage
   - Blastopore becomes mouth
   - Includes acoelomates, pseudocoelomates, and eucoeolomates
   - Two major subgroups: Ecdysozoa and Lophotrochozoa

See Figure 3.8 in ebook