

Features of Kingdoms

What are the defining features of the following Kingdoms, according to the scientific community:

ANIMALIA -

- multicellular (made up of more than one cell)
- eukaryotic (refers to the type of cell)
- motile (can move spontaneously and independently at some point in their lives)
- they follow a definite growth pattern and the adults have a definite shape and size
- they are heterotrophs (they must ingest other organisms or their products for substance)
- body made up of many organ systems
- most have body symmetry



PLANTAE -

- multicellular
- eukaryotic (refers to the type of cell)
- most plants are autotrophs (obtain energy from sunlight via photosynthesis)
- sessile (can't move around)



FUNGI -

- most are multicellular (with the exception of single-celled yeast)
- eukaryotic (refers to the type of cell)
- structurally, fungi are made up of individual filaments called hyphae, which together form the mycelium
- they are heterotrophs (they must ingest other organisms or their products for substance)
- cell walls contain chitin
- are principal decomposers in ecological systems



PROTISTA -

- this group is a bit of a mish-mash: besides their relatively simple levels of organisation, protists don't have much in common
- mostly unicellular (made up of a single cell)
- eukaryotic (refers to the type of cell)
- some are heterotrophic, some are autotrophic



MONERA -

- primitive organisms
- bacteria
- unicellular (made up of a single cell)
- prokaryotic (refers to the type of cell)

