

Chapter 5

THE FUNDAMENTAL UNIT OF LIFE

VACUOLES:

Vacuole is surrounded by a layer called as "Tonoplast layer".

Vacuoles are storage Sacs for solid or liquid contents vacuoles are small sized, in animal cells, while plant cells have very large vacuoles. The central vacuole of some plant cells may occupy 50-90% of the cell volume.

In plant cells, vacuoles are full of cell sap and provide turgidity and rigidity to the cell.

In Amoeba, the contractile vacuole is important for osmoregulation and excretion. In many cells, as in protists, food vacuoles are formed by engulfing the food particles.