1. Cell: the smallest unit that can perform all the processes necessary for life, membrane covered structure.
2. Homeostasis: the maintenance of a constant internal state in a changing environment to maintain stable internal conditions to survive.
3. Cell Membrane: a protective layer that covers the cell’s surface and acts as a barrier. Separates the cell’s contents from its environment. Controls materials going into and out of the cell.
4. Organelles: structures that perform specific functions within the cell.
5. Cell Wall: plant cells outermost structure. A rigid structure that gives support to a cell. Made of complex sugar called cellulose.
6. Lysosomes: organelles that contain digestive enzymes. They destroy worn-out or damaged organelles, get rid of waste materials, and protect the cell from foreign invaders.
7. Organism: a living thing; anything that can perform life processes by itself.
8. Cytoplasm: the region of the cell within the membrane that includes the fluid, the cytoskeleton, and all of the organelles except the nucleus.
9. Diffusion: the movement from areas of high concentration/density (crowded) to areas of low concentration/density (less crowded).
10. Osmosis: diffusion of water from a more dilute solution to a more concentrated solution through a membrane that is permeable.
11. Passive Transport: movement of particles across a cell membrane without the use of energy by the cell with the concentration gradient.
12. Active Transport: a process of transporting particles that requires the cell to use energy; usually involves the movement of particles from an area of low concentration to an area of high concentration and against the concentration gradient.
13. Semipermeable: a membrane that permits only certain substances to pass through.
14. Endocytosis: active-transport process by which a cell surrounds a large particle and encloses the particle in a vesicle to bring the particle into the cell.
15. Exocytosis: active-transport process by which a substance, such as waste, is released from the cell through a vesicle that transports the substance to the cell surface and then fuses with the membrane to let the substance out of the cell.