

Sponges have been used since ancient times



○ The Greeks used them in their helmets

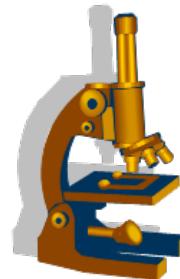
○ The Romans used them for paintbrushes and mops



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● The early classification put sponges with plant.

○ When they started to use microscope they discovered the similarities to animals.



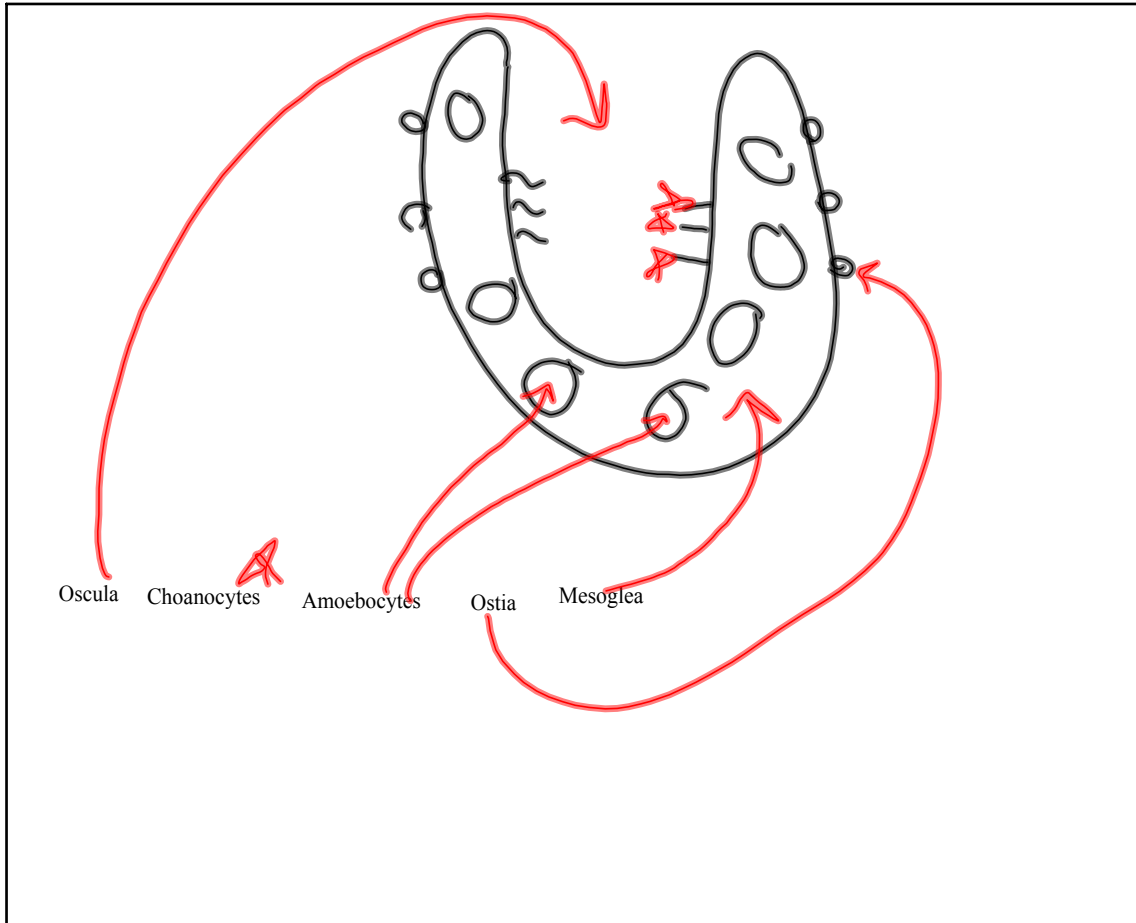
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- Asymmetrical
- Sessile- non mobile

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- Sponges do not have tissues  
or organs
- Sponge cells can recognize  
other sponge cells

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- Spongin-makes up the skeleton on the sponge. It is a flexible protein fiber.
- Spicules- tiny needles of silica and calcium carbonate

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## Calcareous

have  
spicules  
made of  
calcium  
carbonate

## Glass

have  
spicules  
made of  
silica

## Demosponge

made of  
spongin

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## Reproduce asexually and sexually

- Sponges regenerate when cut into pieces

- They reproduce by breaking off

fragment

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- Many sponges are hermaphrodites
  - The egg and sperm are produced at different times so they can't self fertilize

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