

# Hydra

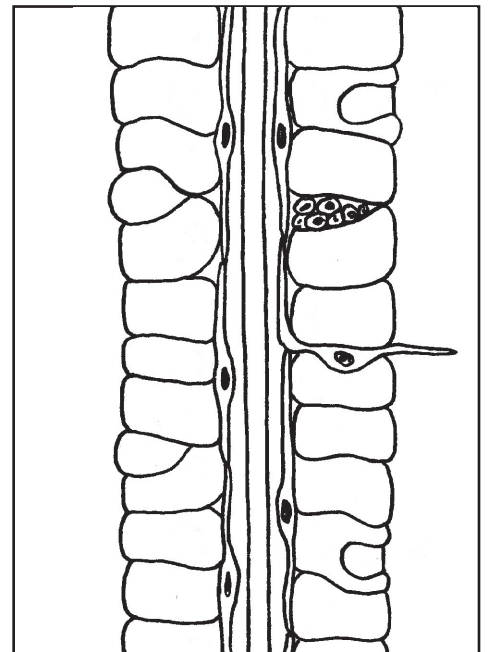
*is a freshwater cnidarian, with a very similar body structure to both corals and jellyfish.*

KINGDOM: Animalia    PHYLULM: Cnidaria    CLASS: Hydrozoa    ORDER: Anthoathecata    FAMILY: Hydridae    GENUS: Hydra

## REPRODUCTION:

When a hydra has plenty to eat, it will reproduce by forming "buds" on the side. The buds will mature into complete hydras and then "pinch off" to leave the parent.

If a hydra senses that winter or a drought is coming, it will begin to produce eggs or sperm (or both in some cases). The sperm are released into the water to find the eggs of another hydra. The sperm and eggs join to make an egg cell with a tough outer coating that can survive harsh conditions.



- mesoglea
- nerve cells
- epidermis
- gastrodermis
- muscle
- algae cells

- 1) cilia
- 2) nucleus of cell
- 3) gland cells
- 4) vesicles containing digestive enzymes
- 5) sensory neuron
- 6) cnidocytes
- 7) trigger (cilia)
- 8) stem cells

Hydra's stem cells allow it to regenerate quickly.

The basal disc has cells that secrete a sticky substance that allows the hydra to attach to a surface.