

Chapter 20

The Diversity of Protists

20.1 What Are Protists?

- Most protists are single celled
 - **Protists** include any eukaryote that is not a plant, animal, or fungus
 - Most protists are microscopic in size
 - Some are large aggregations or colonies of single-celled individuals; others are multicellular organisms

- Protists use diverse modes of nutrition
 - They may ingest food
 - They may absorb nutrients from their surroundings
 - They may perform photosynthesis