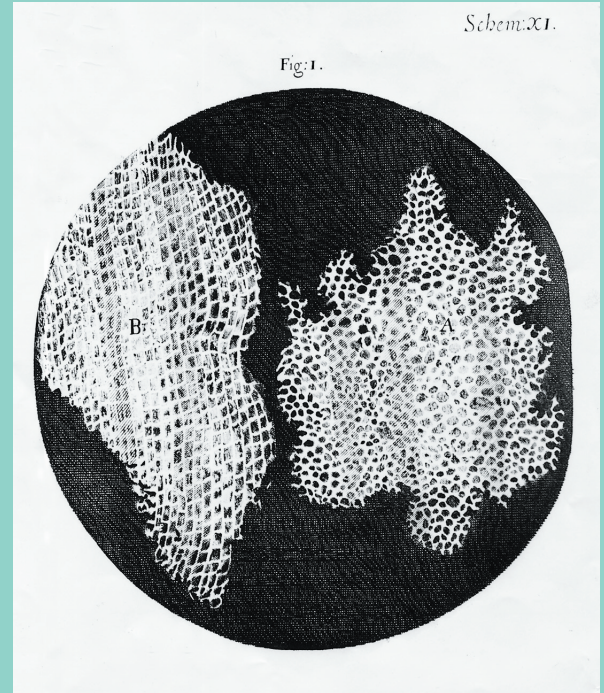


## Key words

- \* microscope
- \* cell

## Observing cells

Science and technology often work together. In the 1660s, the first **microscopes** were invented. Scientists, for the first time, were able to see things that were too small to see with their eyes alone. One of the first men to build and use a microscope was Robert Hooke (1635–1703), who worked at the Royal Society for Science. He was an astronomer, physicist and naturalist. He wrote a book that included the first illustrations of what various objects looked like under a microscope. One of the materials that Robert Hooke studied with his microscope was cork that is found under tree bark. Hooke noticed that the cork was made up of tiny boxes. These reminded him of the rows of monk's rooms in a monastery, and so he called each little box a **cell**.



- 1 When was Robert Hooke born?
- 2 How old was Robert Hooke when he died?
- 3 Robert Hooke was an astronomer, physicist and naturalist. Explain what is studied in each of these areas of science.
- 4 What word would we use instead of naturalist today?
- 5 How did the fact that Hooke studied three areas of science help with the invention of the microscope?
- 6 What was special about the book that Hooke produced?
- 7 Why did Hooke choose the word cell for the small units he saw when he looked at plant material with his microscope?