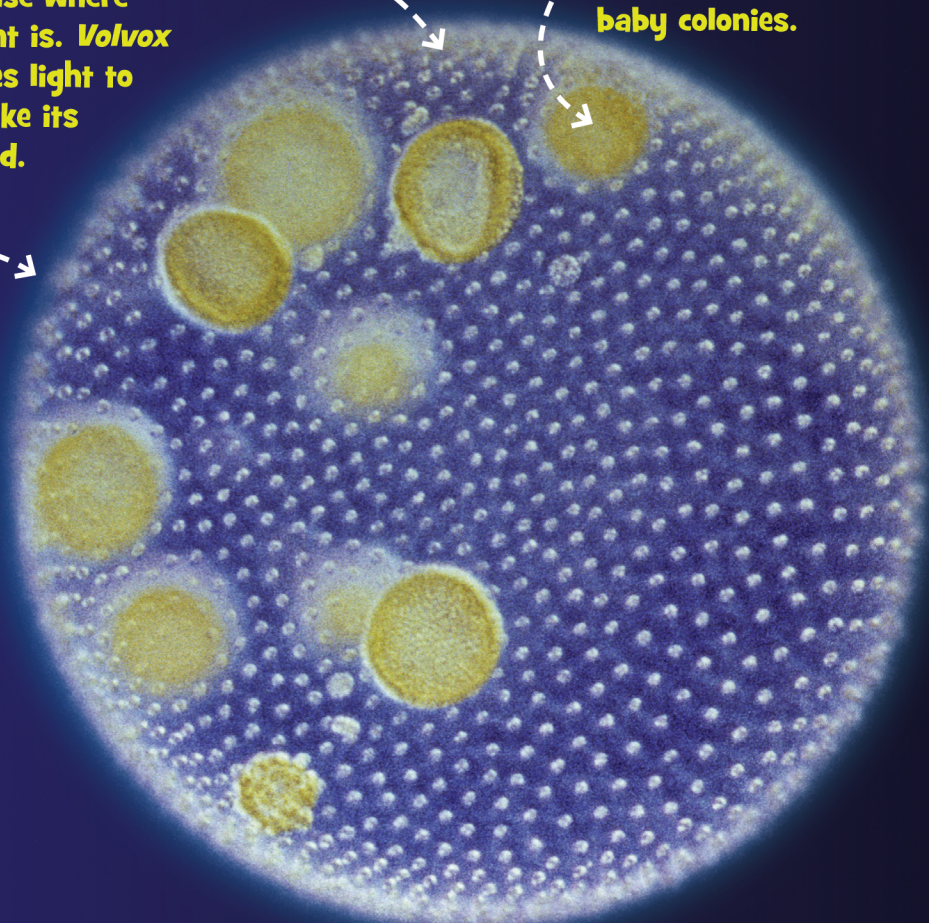


Highlights

Each algal cell has a tiny, red "eyespot" to sense where light is. *Volvox* uses light to make its food.

"Daughter" colonies form inside, then emerge as independent baby colonies.

The colony is no bigger than this letter o, yet it is made up of 500 to 50,000 individual algal (AL-gull) cells, all in a single layer.



Spotlight Rolling Algae

This may look like a toy ball. But the magnified image shows an entire colony of a kind of algae called *Volvox* (VALL-vocks), which lives in many freshwater ponds. The name *Volvox* comes from a Latin word meaning "to roll" because each round, hollow colony moves by rolling through water.

Each individual cell has two hair-like flagella (fluh-JELL-uh) that face outside the "ball."

The colony's flagella beat in waves to roll the colony toward light.

Balance Challenge

If the two birds weigh the same, which way will the seesaw tip?

Think of your own best answer, then read our explanation in Answers on page 38.



BONUS
To balance the seesaw, which bird should move, and in which direction?



Tell Me Why

Why do cats lie on paper?

Katelyn Stone
Age 8 • Massachusetts

We have not seen a scientific study that tried to answer this question, so we asked Dr. Bonnie V. Beaver, a veterinarian specializing in feline behavior. According to Dr. Beaver, some people think cats just like the crinkly sound of paper. Others think it may be the location that the cat likes, rather than the paper. The paper may just happen to be on the cat's preferred resting spot! And there certainly are cats who will sit or lie on paper or other objects just to get our attention.



Dinosaurs

By Dougal Dixon

Skorpiovenator

score-pea-OH-venn-ah-tore
"scorpion hunter"

Skorpiovenator was an abelisaurid (ah-bell-ih-SAW-rid)—one of the big meat eaters on the southern continents.

When hunting or fighting, may have used its head as a battering ram

Strong hind legs, so likely a fast runner

Short, wide, heavy head covered in bony knobs

Tiny, possibly useless arms

WHERE:
Argentina

HOW LONG:
25 feet

WHAT IT ATE:
Other dinosaurs

WHEN:
95 million years ago



252	201	145	66	Present
Triassic	Jurassic	Cretaceous	Cenozoic	

Yikes! It got its name because the site where paleontologists dug it up was crawling with scorpions.