Life process
Nutrition in Animals

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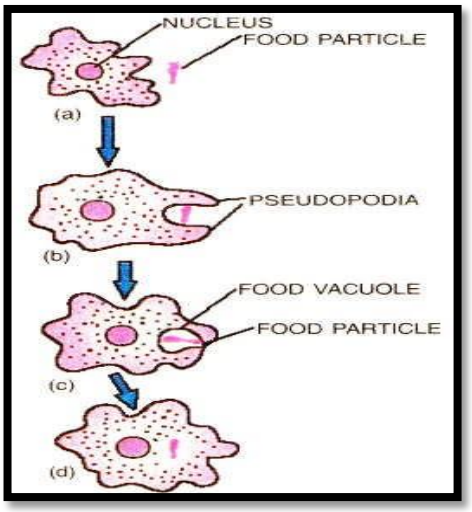
Nutrition in unicellular organisms **(Example – Amoeba) :-**

Food – Amoeba is holozoic and omnivorous animal. It feeds upon microscopic organisms like bacteria, paramecium, Diatoms, Algae and dead organic matter.



Mechanisms. Nutrition in Amoeba involves the following steps:

(i) **Ingestion :** Since it is unicellular so a single cell is responsible for carrying out all the vital activities. Food is ingested with the help of pseudopodia. Animal engulfs the food particle lying near it by forming pseudopodia around it and forming a food vacuole which is considered as itstemporary stomach.

(ii) **Digestion :** The enzymes from surrounding cytoplasm enter the food vacuole and break down the food into smaller and soluble forms.

(iii) **Absorption :** The digested food is now absorbed by cytoplasm by simple diffusion and then the food vacuole disappears.

(iv) **Assimilation :** The food absorbed in amoeba is used to obtain energy from respiration, for its growth and reproduction.

(v) **Egestion :** Undigested food is thrown out of the cell.