

ANTONIE VAN LEEUWENHOEK

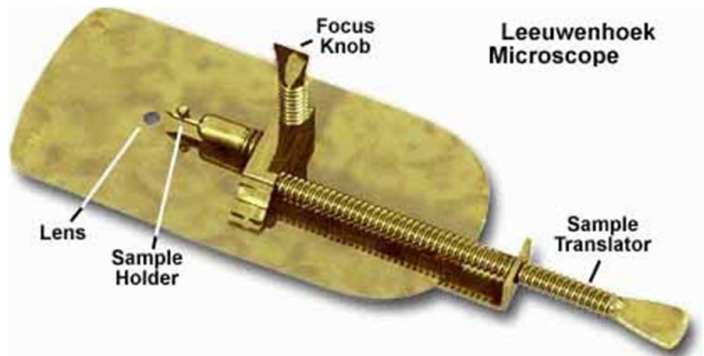


Antonie van Leeuwenhoek was born in Delft, Holland, in 1632.

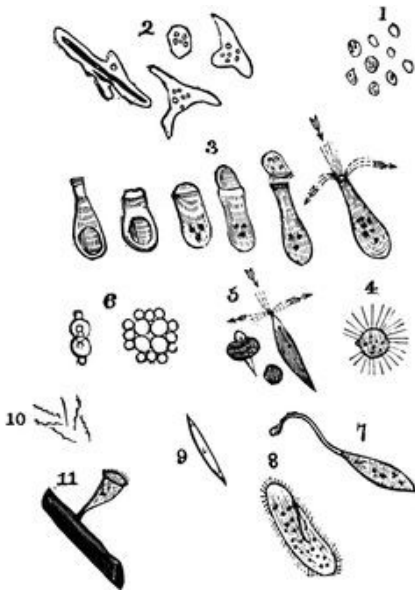
His parents are merchants.

Without money, his parents can't pay for him to go to the university. At the age of sixteen, Leeuwenhoek goes as an apprentice in a fabric merchant's shop. As merchants use magnifying lenses to count the threads in clothes, he develops an interest in magnifying lenses.

Leeuwenhoek creates and assembles a simple microscope made of metal with a little lens inside. This first microscope can magnify objects up to 270 times their original size.



With his microscope, **Leeuwenhoek observes, for the first time in history, an incredible world of tiny living organisms** like bacteria and protists.



Key words:

fabric: tessuto

develop: sviluppare

magnifying lenses: lenti d'ingrandimento

thread: filo

cloth: stoffa