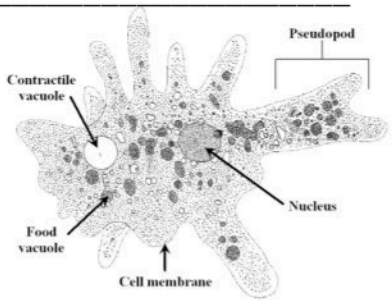
Level: Fifth Grade Name: _____

Using Context Clues



Directions: Read the text below about amoebas.
Use the context clues to understand the bold type words.
Write the meanings of the bold type words in the spaces provided.

An amoeba is a **predatory** single cell organism that does not have a fixed shape. Amoebas are protozoans, a type of **parasite**, which means they depend upon another organism to live and reproduce. They hunt smaller single cells, such as bacteria, other protozoans, and "eat" algae.

The amoeba can project parts of its cell to create **tentacles** called **pseudopodia**. These tentacles are filled with a jelly-like fluid called **cytoplasm**. The amoeba uses these to move, touch, and grab prey. Amoebae live in water, where they creep along rotting vegetation.

Amoebas **reproduce** by a process called binary fission. This means that the amoeba can split in half and make two identical new amoebas. They are **microscopic**, so tiny you need a microscope to see them.

predatory: _____

parasite: _____

tentacles: _____

pseudopodia: _____

cytoplasm: _____

reproduce: _____

microscopic: _____

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