

Chromatophores in the skin of a [squid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squid)

**Chromatophores** are [pigment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological_pigment)-containing and light-reflecting [cells](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cell_%28biology%29), or groups of cells, found in a wide range of animals including [amphibians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amphibian), [fish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fish), [reptiles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reptile), [crustaceans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crustacean) and [cephalopods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cephalopod). [Mammals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal)and [birds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bird), in contrast, have a class of cells called [melanocytes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melanocyte) for [coloration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal_coloration).