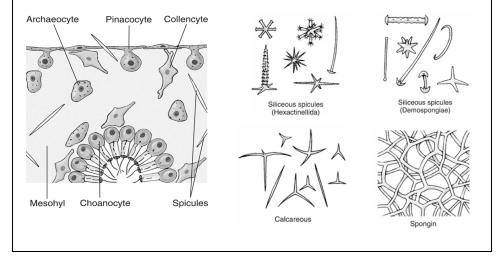


- a. rigid skeleton: calcareous or siliceous spicules
- b. fibrous portion→collagen fibrils in intercellular matrix
- c. one form of collagen, spongin, comes in several types
- d. composition along with their shape of spicules ightarrow basis of sponge classification



Class
Calcarea small calcareous sponges
spicules
composed of CaCO ₃
monaxons or 3 or 4 rays
Hexactinellida glass sponges
spicules
composed of silica
6 rayed
Demospongiae
95% of living sponges
spicules
composed of silica
not 6 rayed
bound together by spongin or may be absent

