

 Planetperson

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Post #1

Premier Member



Descending Into Protodermis



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You might remember a theory I posted last year concerning the physical form of Mata Nui. The topic can be read [here](#). To summarize, the thought was that Mata Nui's body is in fact the Matoran universe itself, and that the workings of the universe were characteristically similar to the processes of a human body. The Matoran are like the cells of a body – individually small, dispensable, but collectively vital to the well-being of the whole – they make up the whole, allow it to function. Metru Nui is like Mata Nui's brain – one might compare the resident Matoran to brain cells. The chute system that webs through the city? It's like a network of neurons. The Great Archives beneath the surface of the city? Representative of Mata Nui's memory.

When the Matoran stop working, Mata Nui's brain shuts down, and he goes into a coma. Metru Nui's power plant in the Coliseum siphons off extra power to other lands that depend on the energy. The brain controls the body. When the brain is out of commission, the rest of the body gets sick. It happened during the Great Disruption and again after the Great Cataclysm.

The island of Mata Nui is like Mata Nui's face. It's the head of Mata Nui, sunk into the ocean. This is why Metru Nui and all other Matoran lands are underground – they need to be inside Mata Nui's body.

The Universe Core is like Mata Nui's heart. It feeds energy to the whole universe, like the heart is responsible for pumping blood and its oxygen to all parts of the body. When Mata Nui died in 2007, Matoro saw Karda Nui's glow fade as he approached it, as if his heartbeat were giving out. When Mata Nui was brought back to life, the glow was restored.

I was very self-assured of my idea when I posted it. It explains everything – why Matoran lands are in underground cavities, why Matoran working in Metru Nui has anything to do with the Great Spirit being healthy, even various symbols that have appeared throughout the saga. I am still sure of my theory now.

I return with a more reinforced version of my theory, complete with pictures, some of clues you may have missed, hints that have been around even since 2001, and explanations for some of the major facets of the BIONICLE. I draw from key storyline points, promotional material, and the ever-intriguing tidbits from the OGD. (Unfortunately, I don't have the patience to provide quotes from the OGD, only to assure you that I remember reading them.)

### The History of Mata Nui/the Matoran Universe: The Facts Explained

- Over 100,000 years ago, the Great Beings came upon a planet covered with a vast, rolling ocean. On it they resolved to create a new world. In their wisdom, they decided that the ultimate power in their new universe should belong to a Great Spirit.
- A Great Spirit whose body is the universe itself establishes a quintessential order of things. The Great Spirit cannot neglect his duty to keep the universe in order just as any self-preserving being would not want harm to come to one's own body. In turn, the inhabitants must dutifully labor away in order to sustain the being that makes their existence possible.
  
- The very first thing the Great Beings created before *anything else* was a Matoran.
- A single Matoran. A single cell. Much like people start out. Interestingly (and I don't think this was really intended to bear significance), the first Matoran would have been one of Light. You could say Av-Matoran are a multi-colored variety of cell, kinda like stem cells.
  
- Over time, the Great Beings constructed the geographic foundations of the new world. They made all land, sea, and living beings out of protodermis instead of substances familiar to us on earth like the water of the ocean in which the Great Beings created their universe.
- The Great Beings made the entire world – the rocks, the water, the living things – out of its own substance, protodermis, making the flesh of the universe distinct from its natural surroundings. Keep in mind *dermis* means "skin." Back in 2001, the story team was still uncertain about a name between *biodermis* and *protodermis* and settled on the latter – it seems that the "dermis" root was the important one.
  
- The Great Beings made the island of Mata Nui barren and intended for it always to stay that way. They created the Bohrok to ensure this.
- Understandable protocol to keep the face of Mata Nui clear.
  
- The Great Spirit Mata Nui existed in form for some time before he came to life 100,000 years ago, which, incidentally, was the same time as the Great Beings founded Metru Nui.
- The Great Beings form Mata Nui's body, then they turn his brain on.