

# Build A Bacteria

**Create your own colorful micro-organism and appreciate the role bacteria play in our world.**

Bacteria cells are extremely tiny, only a few millionths of a meter long. They are about a hundred times smaller than your average human cell. The tiny organisms come in various shapes such as spheres, rods, and spirals.

The basic structure includes an outer capsule made of sugars that helps bacteria cling to its environment. The capsule is covered with short, hair-like structures called pilli. Many bacteria also have long tails called flagella. Inside the capsule is a rigid, protective layer called the cell wall, and then the more permeable cell membrane, which contains cytoplasm, a gelatinous liquid that fills the cell and contains the bacteria's DNA.

## Materials

- Air-dry clay like Crayola's Model Magic or Play-Doh, in various colors.
- Googly eyes
- Pipe cleaners
- Any other creative items to decorate your bacteria



# Instructions

1. Think of what you'd like to make.
2. Grab a piece of clay, googly eyes, pipe cleaners, and other items.
3. Shape the clay to form your bacteria.
4. Add the eyes, pipe cleaners and other items.
5. Be creative and have fun!

