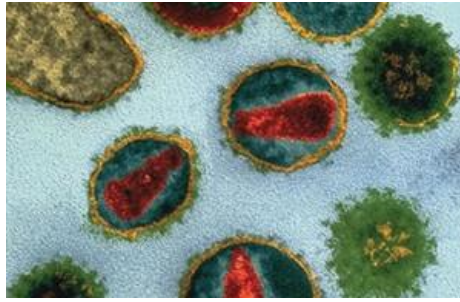


Centre of the Cell's 'Microbe Detective' Challenge



A **microbe** is another word for a really small living thing. There are lots of different kinds of **microbes**- let's take a look at some of the main ones.

Fungi

The fungus that I'm sure you've all heard is mushrooms, you might even like eating them! But there are many more different types. Can you find 3 more?

Hint: we can make a widely used antibiotic from one of them

Bacteria

We can find bacteria everywhere on Earth- even in a type of underwater volcano called a hydrothermal vent! Some bacteria are known as **pathogenic**, meaning it can make us ill. But we also have lots of bacteria that lives on our skin without making us sick. Can you name one bacteria that lives on our bodies, and two which make us sick?

Viruses

All viruses are **pathogenic**. This type of **microbe** makes us sick as viruses cannot reproduce (make virus babies) on their own. Instead, they have to hijack one of our cells, and use the different parts of our cell to make new viruses. Once these viruses have been made, the cell explodes and releases the new viruses. Can you name 3 types of virus?

Choose your favourite **microbe** and use the template on the next page to create a wanted poster. Check out the GiantMicrobes on our website if you need inspiration. Send in your drawings to our social media or email us on info@centrefofthecell.org.

Let us know how your
challenge goes on social media
@CentrefoftheCell!

WANTED

Name:

My crime:

(Disease caused)

How to spot me:

(Symptoms)

Artists recreation

Wanted: Dead or alive