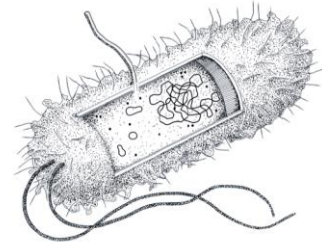


# ARTIS MICROPIA

## Invisible life

### Culture your own micro-organisms

Answers to the questions to the experiment.



#### Questions for the pupils:

Question 1: **Which container is the most covered with microbes?**

Question 2: **Which surface or object goes with this container?**

Question 3: **Why do you think this object or surface has so many microbes?**

Question 4: **What does the container with fingerprints look like?**

Question 5: **Why do you always have to wash your hands after going to the toilet?**

#### Possible results:

You will mostly find fungi in your container. This is because certain fungi multiply extremely quickly and can take over everything. If you look closely, you can also see small white spots (or sometimes other colours). These are groups of bacteria.

#### Conclusion:

You will probably find microbes on all of the containers. That is quite logical. Microbes are everywhere. They are all around you. Also on and in your own body. There are more microbes in certain places than others. For example, more microbes live in warm, moist areas than in very dry or cold ones.

This seems disgusting, but that is not at all the case. Only very few microbes can make us ill. Most of them are not dangerous or disgusting. A great many microbes are even quite useful for humans. For example, we use bacteria to make cheese and yoghurt and yeast to brew beer and make wine.

We spend each and every day of our lives with microbes. For instance, our intestines are packed with bacteria which help us digest our food. We could not survive without the help of microbes. Microbial life is extremely important.