

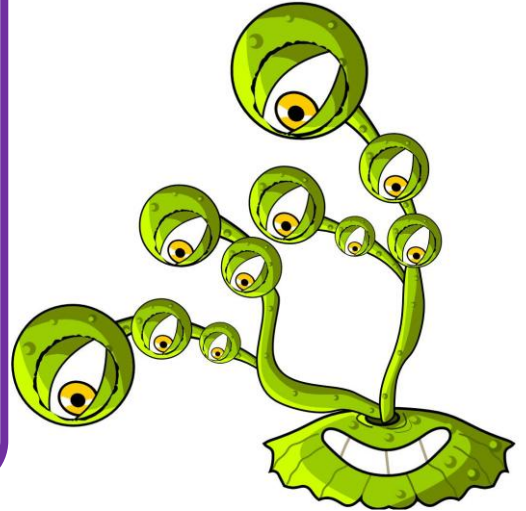


# Microbe Garden

How many different types of microbe can you find on different foods?

## Ingredients

- 2 Empty, clean and dry jars (jam jars would be perfect!)
- 2 Pieces of bread
- 2 Pieces of cheese
- 2 Pieces of apple
- 2 Pieces of cucumber
- 2 Pieces of carrot
- A Little water
- A Pen
- A Notebook
- A Camera (optional)
- 2 Labels or paper and sticky tape



## Method



**Label** one **jar** '**water**' and the other '**control**'. Put one of each type of food into each jar.



**Add** a **sprinkling** of **water** to the jar labelled '**water**'. **Do not** add water to the **jar**.



**Put** the **lids** on the **jars** and the place the jars on a counter top out of direct sunlight. **Leave** them for **two weeks**.



**Record** the changes in the jars **everyday**. Sketch or photograph what you can see. **Do not** remove the lid.



After 2 weeks **compare** your **pictures** from the experiment. Ask an adult to dispose of the jars and their contents.

## Explanation

You should have had more microbe growth in the jar with water in it, as a lot of microbes prefer damp conditions in order to grow and multiply. You should be able to count a number of different microbes on different foods in the jar, because microbes prefer different environments and certain microbes are more likely to be found on some foods rather than others.