

Germ-ometry

Germs are so small that we can't see them without a microscope. A microscope is a tool we use to make small things look bigger. The germs in the photos below are bacteria. The germs are magnified many times their actual size. Bacteria usually come in 3 different shapes:

ROD



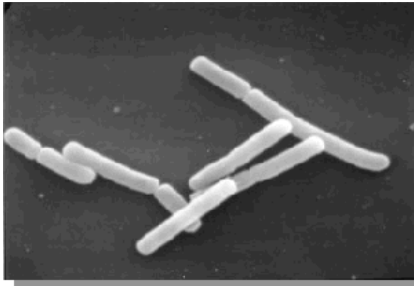
BALL



SPIRAL

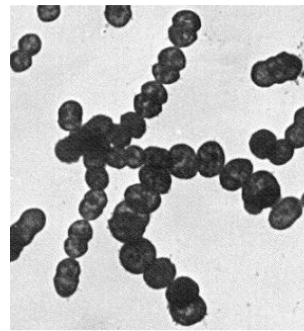


Instructions: Below are pictures of what germs look like under the microscope. On the lines under each germ, write the shape you see most (Rod, Ball, or Spiral).



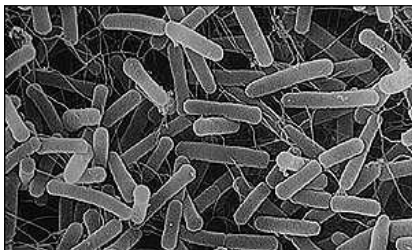
GOOD GERMS!
Lactobacillus
acidophilus
(lak-tow-bass-ill-us
ass-id-of f-ill-us)

These bacteria are found in yogurt—but don't worry, they make yogurt healthy for us to eat! What shape do you see?



BAD GERMS!
Streptococci
(strep-tow-kok-ee)

Ouch! These are the bacteria that cause us to have really sore throats. What shape do you see?



**GOOD AND
BAD GERMS!**
E. Coli
(ee k o-lye)

There are good and bad kinds of E. coli. The good E. coli help us break down food so food can get to all parts of our bodies. The bad E. coli can turn food bad and make us sick. What shape do you see?



BAD GERMS!
Leptospira interrogans
(lep-toe-spy-ra in-ter-og-ans)

Stay away!! These bacteria cause disease. What shape do you see?

Answer Key: *Lactobacillus acidophilus*—rod, *Streptococci*—ball, *E. coli*—rod, and *Leptospira interrogans*—spiral.