

### What microorganisms are growing in your classroom?

See what bacteria are lurking on different surfaces by taking samples, then watching them grow!

#### Experiment

Make it fair! To make this a fair test, only 1 thing can change. We call this a **variable**.

##### Variable (thing that will change):

- ✓ Surface

Surface 1:

Surface 2:

##### Controlled conditions (things that stay the same):

- ✓ The petri dish used
- ✓ How the bacteria are collected
- ✓ Waiting time before checking the results

#### Ask

What questions/pātai do you have about bacteria?

#### Predict

What do you think will happen?

We think surface 1 will grow more/less (circle one) bacteria than surface 2, because:

## Test

### Do your experiment!

- Swab surfaces
- Swab petri dish
- Store safely
- Observe changes over time

Tick or draw what you notice:

#### Day 1

- No bacteria
- Small dots
- Something else

#### Day 4–6

- Small round colonies
- Fuzzy patches
- Wavy shapes
- Different colours

## Explain

### What did you learn?

Your results:

What does this mean?

Was your prediction correct?

- Yes     No

### Suggested roles:

**Sensory Scientist:**

Records results

**Flavour Chemist:**

Chooses samples to test

**Texture Technician:**

Swabs agar plate

**Hygiene Hero:**

Manages health and safety

**The science:** Good hygiene helps keep ice cream safe to eat.