

GERMIS





There are 4 types of germs. These are:

1. **Virus (e.g. HIV, chickenpox, flu, measles)**

Viruses need to be inside living cells to grow and reproduce. Most viruses can not survive very long if they are not inside a living thing like a plant, animal or person. Whatever a virus lives in is called a host. When viruses get inside people's bodies, they can spread and make people sick.

2. **Bacteria (e.g. Salmonella/ecoli)**

Bacteria are tiny creatures that get nutrients from their environments in order to live. In some cases that environment is a human body. Bacteria can reproduce outside of the body or within the body as they cause infections. But not all bacteria are bad. Some bacteria are good for our bodies - they help keep things in balance. Good bacteria live in our intestines and help us use the nutrients in the food we eat and make waste from what is left over.

3. **Parasites (e.g. head lice)**

Parasites live off other living things. Head lice need to be next to the skin to survive, the warmth of your skin is a perfect place for them to live. Lice eat tiny amounts of blood for their nourishment and use their sticky little feet to hold onto hair.

4. **Funghi (e.g. athletes foot)**

Funghi are multi-celled organisms. Funghi get their nutrition from plants, people and animals. They love to live in damp, warm places and many funghi are not dangerous in healthy people.