## Microbe Mania Make your own Microbes

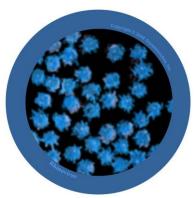
### What do microbes look like?

Many microbes are useful but some are harmful. It is really importnat that we learn how to keep ourselves safe from these tiny living organisms which are too small for use to see unless we use a very powerful microscope. Not all microbes look the same — here are pictures of a few different types. See the Microbe Mania poster for more information.









Photos copyright 2008 Giantmicrobes, inc.



# Microbe Mania How to Make Playdough Microbes

Playdough is great fun. Although it can be bought, it is cheap and easy to make at home. You can add food colouring, choosing your favourite colours. This play dough is safe and easy to shape. Why not use it to make your own models of microbes?

#### **Ingredients**

- 1 cup of plain flour
- 1 cup of water
- 1/2 cup of salt
- 2 teaspoons of cream of tartar
- 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil
- Food colouring

#### Method

- 1. Put together the dry ingredients.
- 2. Put in the water and mix until smooth.
- 3. **Put** in the food colouring followed by the vegetable oil.
- 4. **Put** the mixture on a medium heat, stirring constantly, until the dough leaves the side of the pan in a ball.
  - Alternatively, **put** the mixture on a high setting in the microwave for 4 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds.
- 5. Put it to one side to cool before use.
- 6. **Put it** in a plastic bag or cling film to stop the play dough drying out.
- 7. Use the pictures to help create your own model microbes. Have fun!