

bacteria
[bæk'tɪ(ə)rɪə] *pl om bacterium*

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

bacteria

bac·ter·ia [bacteria bacterial] *BrE* [bæk'tɪəriə] ^ˈ *NAmE* [bæk'tɪriə] ^ˈ **noun**

plural (*sing. bac-ter-ium* *BrE* [bæk'tɪəriəm] ^ˈ ; *NAmE* [bæk'tɪriəm] ^ˈ)

the simplest and smallest forms of life. **Bacteria** exist in large numbers in air, water and soil, and also in living and dead creatures and plants, and are often a cause of disease

Derived Word ↑**bacterial**

Collocations:

The living world*Animals*

animals **mate/breed/reproduce/feed** (on sth)
 fish/amphibians **swim/spawn** (= lay eggs)
 birds **fly/migrate/nest/sing**
 insects **crawl/fly/bite/sting**
 insects/bees/locusts **swarm**
 bees **collect/gather** nectar/pollen
 spiders **spin/weave** a web
 snakes/lizards **shed their skins**
 bears/hedgehogs/frogs **hibernate**
 insect larvae **grow/develop/pupate**
 an egg/a chick/a larva **hatches**
attract/find/choose a mate
produce/release eggs/sperm
lay/fertilize/incubate/hatch eggs
inhabit a forest/a reef/the coast
mark/enter/defend (a) territory
stalk/hunt/capture/catch/kill prey

Plants and fungi

trees/plants **grow/bloom/blossom/flower**
 a seed **germinates/sprouts**
 leaves/buds/roots/shoots **appear/develop/form**
 flower buds **swell/open**
 a fungus **grows/spreads/colonizes** sth
pollinate/fertilize a flower/plant
produce/release/spread/disperse pollen/seeds/spores
produce/bear fruit
develop/grow/form roots/shoots/leaves
provide/supply/absorb/extract/release nutrients
perform/increase/reduce photosynthesis

Bacteria and viruses

bacteria/microbes/viruses **grow/spread/multiply**
 bacteria/microbes **live/thrive** in/on sth
 bacteria/microbes/viruses **evolve/colonize** sth/cause disease
 bacteria **break** sth down/convert sth (into sth)
 a virus **enters/invades** sth/the body
 a virus **mutates/evolves/replicates** (itself)
 be **infected with/contaminated with/exposed to** a new strain of a virus/drug-resistant bacteria
contain/carry/harbour (*especially US*) harbor bacteria/a virus
kill/destroy/eliminate harmful/deadly bacteria

Example Bank:

- Neither chilling nor freezing kills all bacteria.

bacteria

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

bac·te·ri·a /bæk'tɪəriə \$ -'tɪr-/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ **noun** [plural] (*singular bacterium* /-rɪəm/)

[Date: 1800-1900; Language: Modern Latin; Origin: Greek bakterion 'stick, rod', because of their shape]

very small living things, some of which cause illness or disease ⇒ **virus**

—**bacterial** *adjective*:

^ˈ a bacterial infection

bacteria

Freakuency Pack

12500 **5100**^{MCW}

15000 **2617**^{COCA}

RANGE: **5k BACTERIUM** 10831

bacterium 763

bacteria 7880

bacterial 2188

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2485 **4920**⁷⁸³⁶ *nn2*

19 **168465**²² *vvz*

10 **195818**¹⁷ *nnu*

5 **376840**⁵ *jj*
