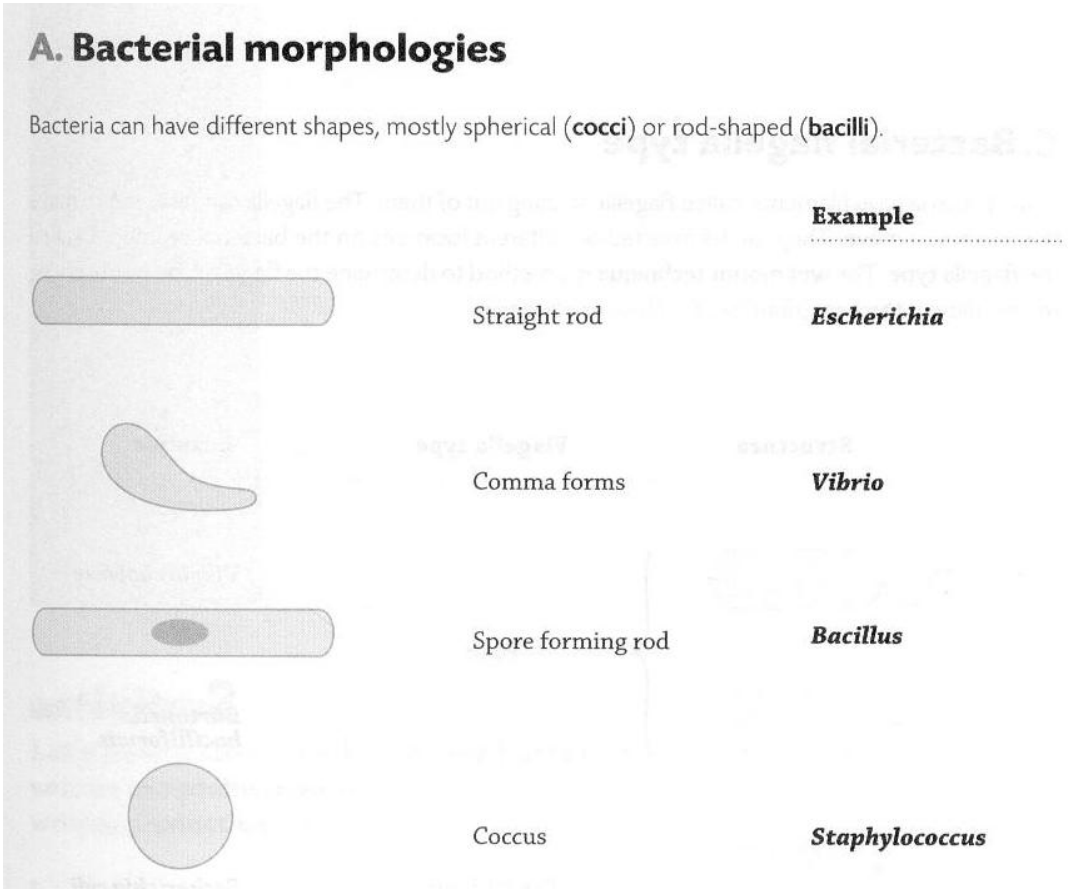
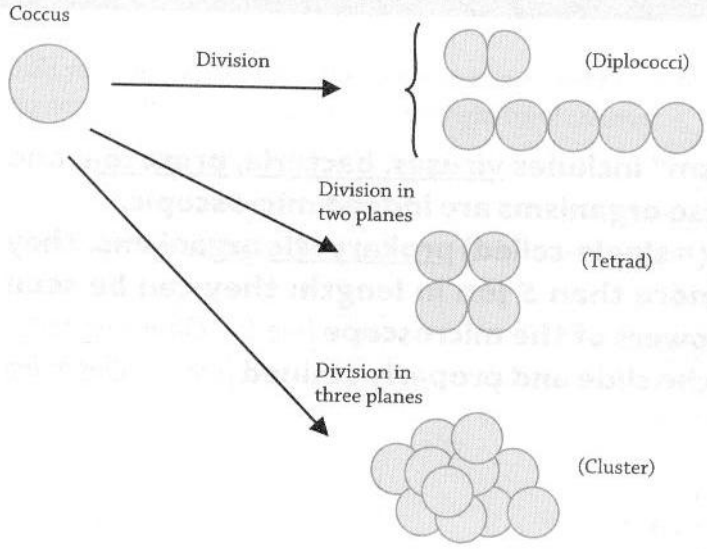
III. Describing bacterial morphology:

The term "microorganism" includes viruses, bacteria, protozoa, and some fungi. Most of these organisms are indeed microscopic. Bacteria are unicellular (=single-celled) prokaryotic organisms. They are very small, rarely more than 5 µm in length: they can be seen only with the highest powers of the microscope, either alive or fixed on the slide and properly stained.



B. Bacterial arrangements

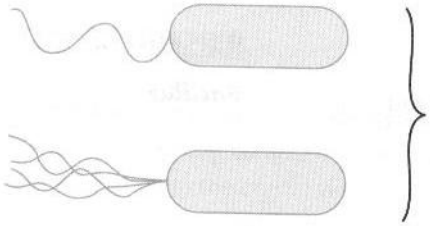
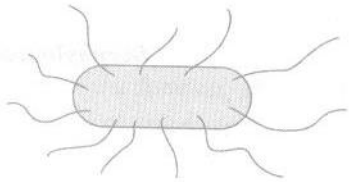
Bacteria exhibit different arrangements, which can be observed on a wet mount *[see 6 – Observin bacteria]*.



Example
Neissera
Streptococcus
Micrococcus
Staphylococcus

C. Bacterial flagella type

Some bacteria have filaments, called **flagella**, sticking out of them. The flagella can flick, and so make the bacterium move. They can be inserted on different locations on the bacterial cell: this is called the **flagella type**. The **wet mount technique** is a method to determine the flagella type by observing the motility of the bacterium *[see 6 – Observing bacteria]*.

Structure	Flagella type	Example
	Polar	***Vibrio cholerae***
		Bartonella bacilliformis
	Peritrichous	***Escherichia coli***

Activity n°8: Let's have a closer look at other bacteria!