

# Biofilm hunt

- Biofilms are made up of lots of bacteria and other microorganisms living together in layers of slime and proteins that they produce themselves.
- These slimy layers stick to, and can be found on many different surfaces, around your home, outside, and on you!
- Using some of the examples below, see if you can find any biofilms in the environment around you.



Biofilms tend to grow in wet places. Pink areas in a shower are likely to be *Serratia marcescens* biofilms.

A leaky cistern is a good place to look for biofilms. A slow flow of water can help the biofilm grow and spread to new areas.



Your fridge might be home to a biofilm. Bacteria from rogue bits of food and liquids can collect and grow in the drain.

Take the hunt outdoors! Biofilms form just as well on rocks, in plant pots, ponds and the sea.



These are only a few examples, there are many places to explore, from drain pipes, mouldy windows, and more...

How many different places did you find biofilms growing? Let us know! Share photos of your biofilms with us on Twitter [@SOTSEFBiofilms](#) and [@ukbiofilms](#) using [#SOTSEF](#) and [#Biofilms](#)

