

# Build a bug

## Research and assemble a *Salmonella* bacterial genome



### Part 1: Instructions

Using the information cards provided to research the function of genetic components which contribute to the virulence of two *Salmonella* serotypes. Summarise the information in the table below. This will be needed for the second part of this activity.

Genetic component	Function / Role	<i>Salmonella</i> Typhi	<i>Salmonella</i> Typhimurium
<i>ratB, sivH, shdA</i>			
<i>Pseudogenes</i>			
<i>SPI-7, SPI-8, SPI-10</i>			
<i>Fimbrial genes</i>			
<i>Capsule genes</i>			
<i>Virulence plasmid</i>			
<i>STY3258</i>			
<i>STM2133</i>			
<i>ECK1674</i>			
<i>ECK4368</i>			

### Glossary

**Serotype or Serovar:** A serotype or serovar is a group of microorganisms classified together based on their cell surface antigens. The *Salmonella* genus of bacteria contains over 4400 serotypes, including *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium (*Salmonella* Typhimurium), *S. enterica* serovar Typhi (*Salmonella* Typhi), and *S. enterica* serovar Dublin (*Salmonella* Dublin).

**Operon:** A cluster of genes that act as a functional unit, interacting and regulating the production of specific polypeptides.

**Putative:** Assumed or hypothetical.

**Plasmid:** A circular piece of DNA that replicates within a cell independently of the chromosomal DNA.

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### Part 2: Instructions

Three of the genetic components below are critical to the *Salmonella* Typhimurium genome, which causes gastroenteritis (stomach pain and diarrhoea). Another three are critical to the *Salmonella* Typhi genome, which causes typhoid fever. Decide which *Salmonella* genome you want to assemble. Using the data collected from the information cards work out the correct genetic components for your bacteria. Construct a model genome using three different colours for your chosen genetic components and one colour to represent the rest of the *Salmonella* genome. Tape your model to the box below and label the components.

Choose three of the following genetic elements to assemble your chosen bacterial genome:

- ratB, sivH, shdA*
- Pseudogenes*
- SPI-7, SPI-8, SPI-10*
- Fimbrial genes*
- Capsule genes*
- Virulence plasmid*
- STY3258*
- STM2133*
- ECK1674*
- ECK4368*

This genome represents *Salmonella* \_\_\_\_\_

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