

Blastie is Everywhere!





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Did you know that there is a whole world of creatures that are really tiny?

Smaller than a baby.



Smaller than a mouse.

Even smaller than an ant



They are so small that our eyes alone can't see them.

Let's meet one now!





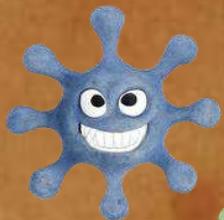
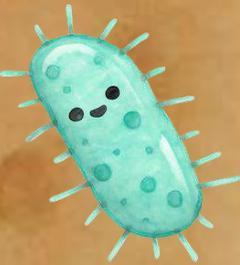
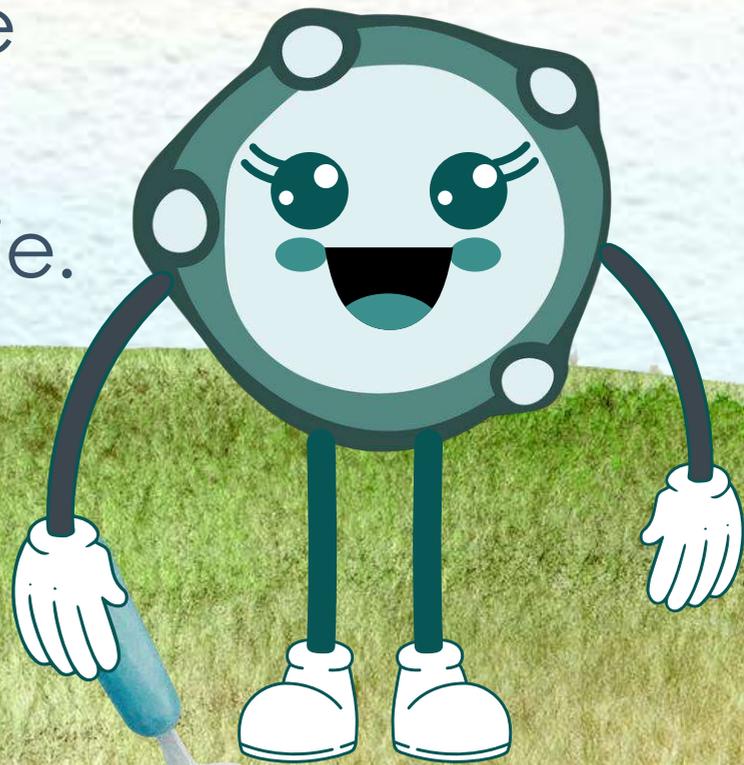
Hello!

My name is *Blastocystis*,
but you can call me
Blastie.

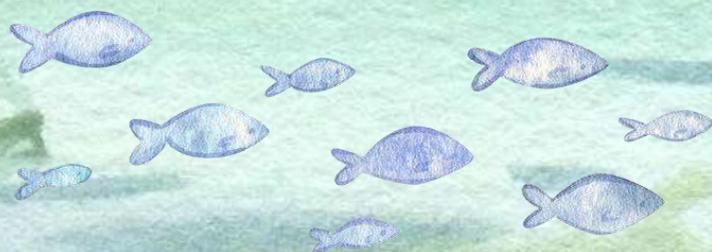
I am teeny, tiny, and you
can't see me...
unless you have a
microscope!



I love to play in the
soil.
"Dig, dig!" goes Blastie.



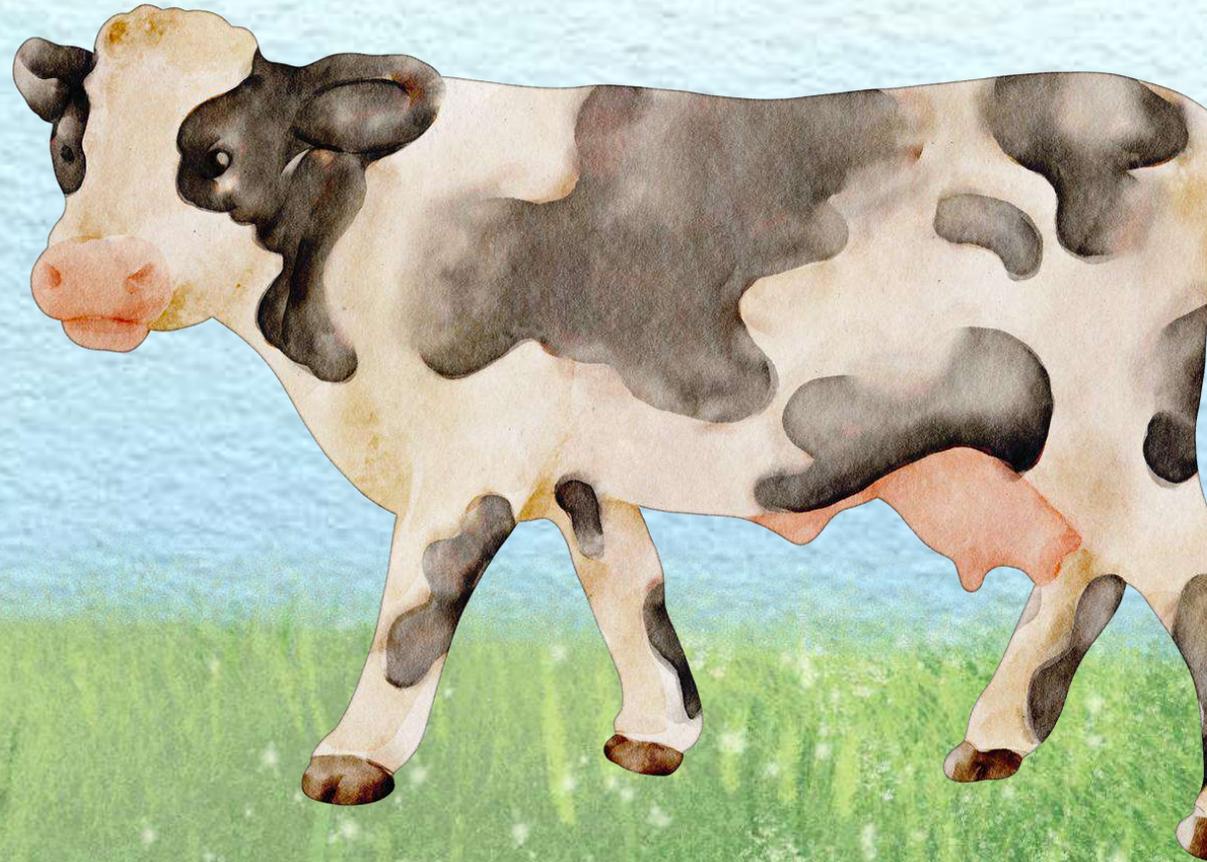
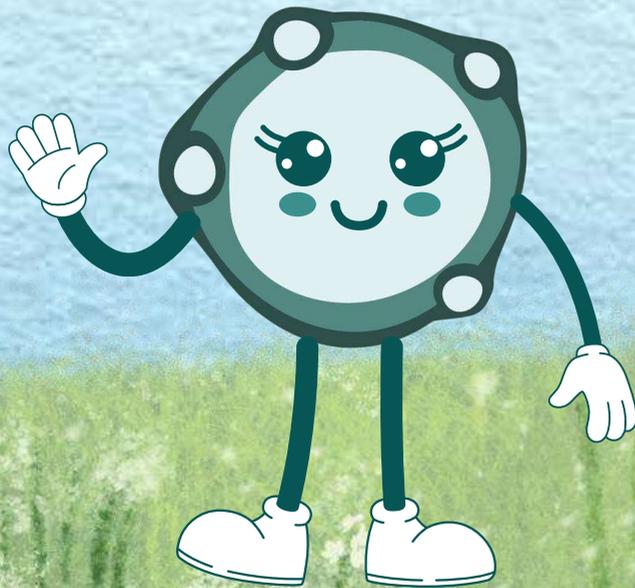
I love to splash in the water.
"Swish, swish, splash!" goes
Blastie.



One day, Blastie meets a
COW.

"Hello, cow!" says Blastie.

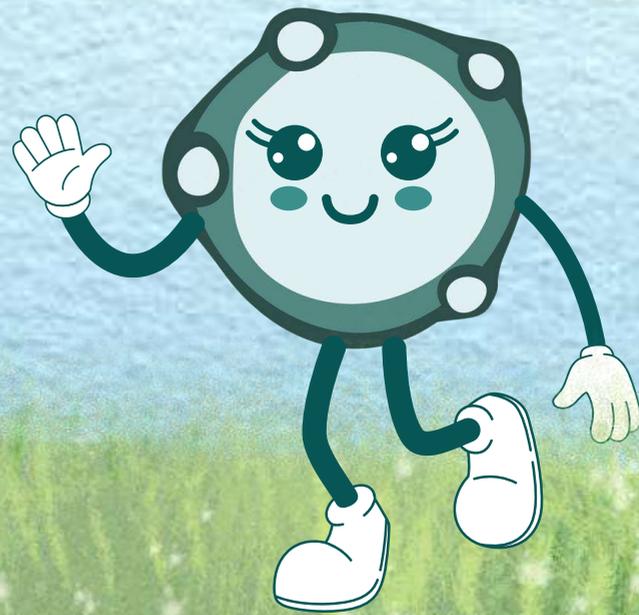
"Moo!" says the cow.



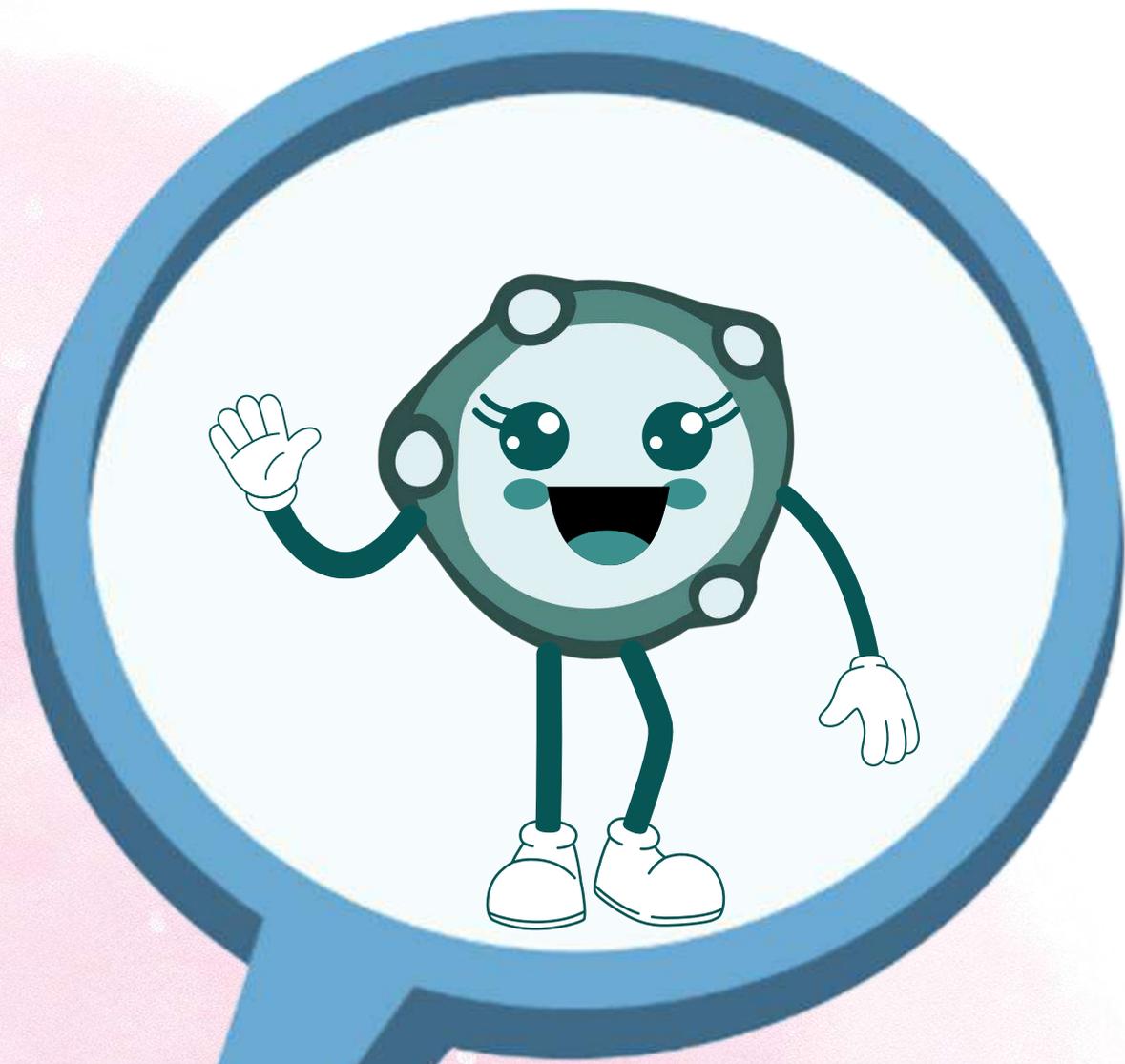
On the same day, Blastie meets a
chicken.

"Hello, chicken!" says Blastie.

"Cluck!" says the chicken.



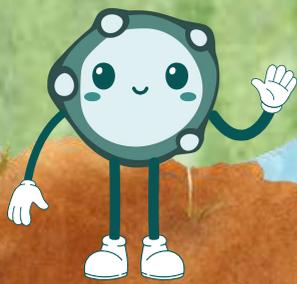
Blastie also meets
a child.



"Hello, friend!"
says Blastie.
"Hello, Blastie!" says the
child.

Blastie is
everywhere...

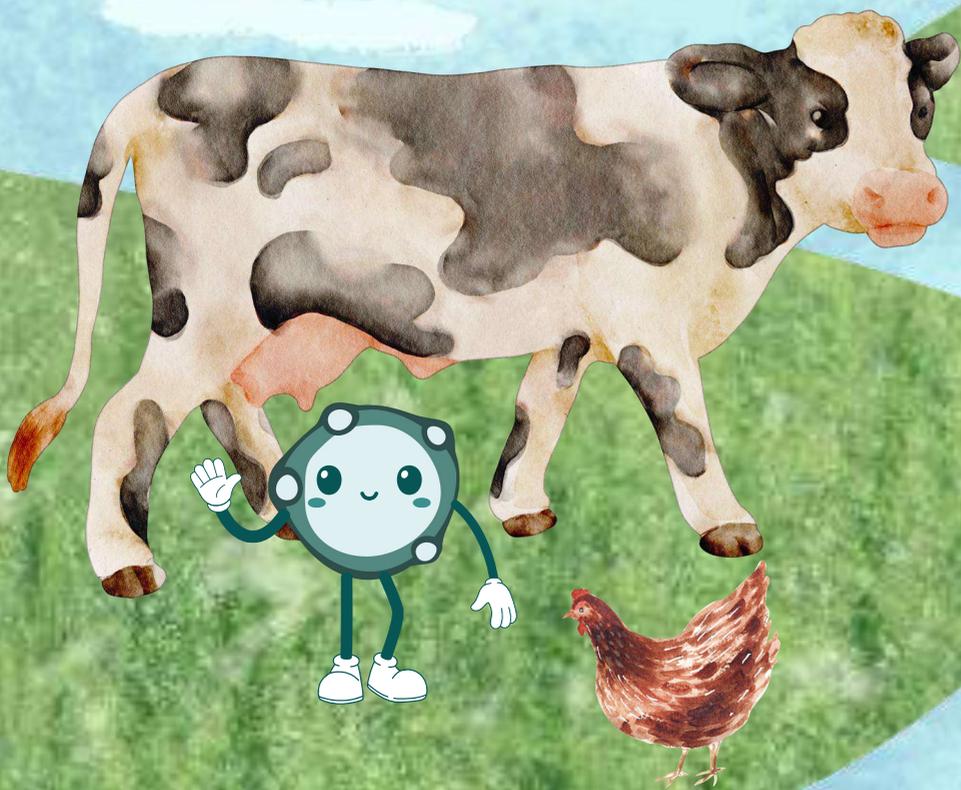
...in soil,



in people,



in animals,



and even in
water!



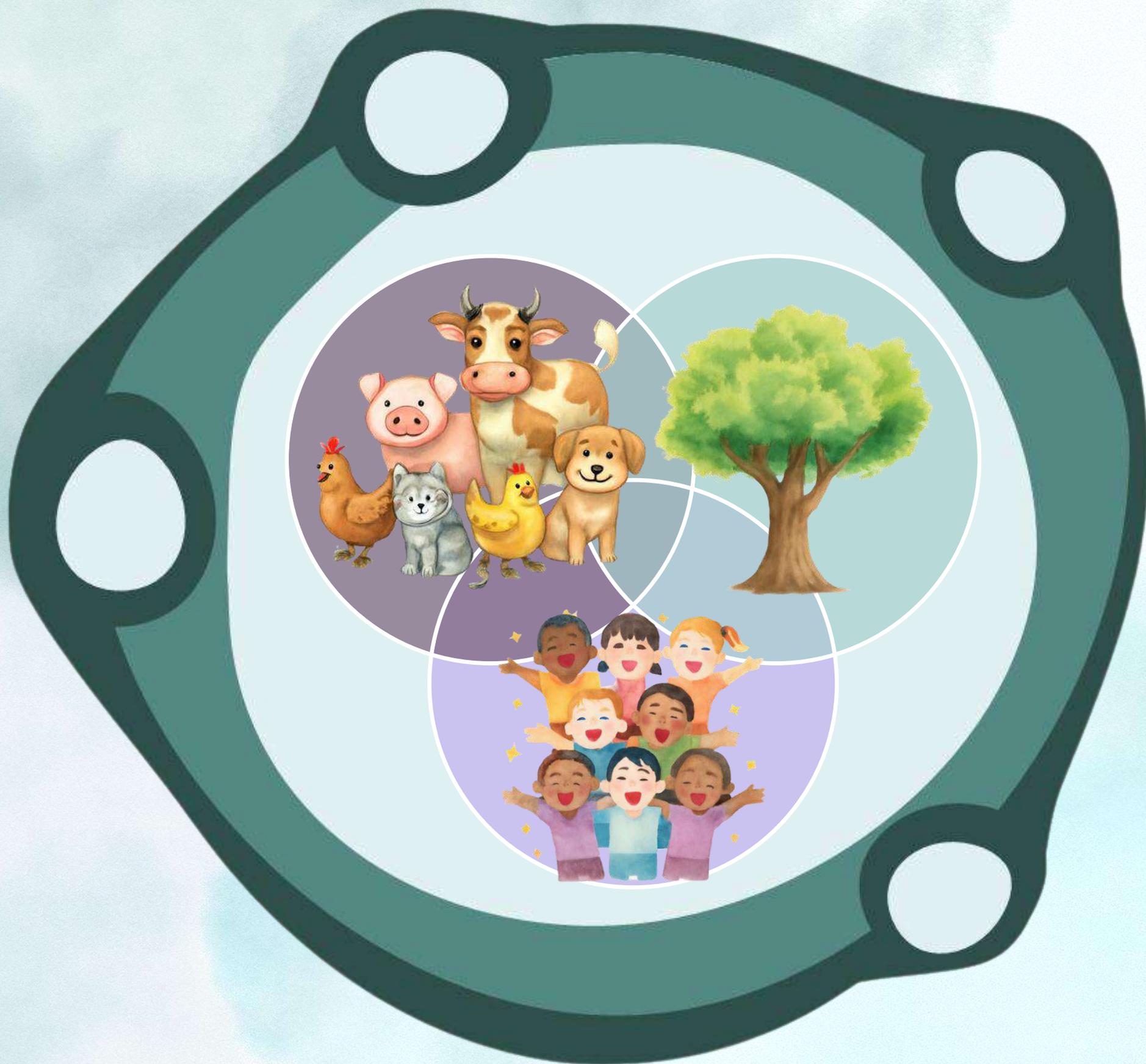
Blastie is not alone, but makes friends with other tiny microbes in the tummy.

They play, talk, and sometimes argue. Together they live in balance.



That is called One Health.

Animals, people, and plants are all connected.



So whenever you drink clean water, wash your hands,
and care for animals, remember:



Blastie is part of our big, busy
world!

Our tummies are full of lots and lots of tiny life! Some microbes help us, some live with us, some can make us feel poorly, and some we're still learning about, like Blastie *Blastocystis*.

And that's the exciting part!

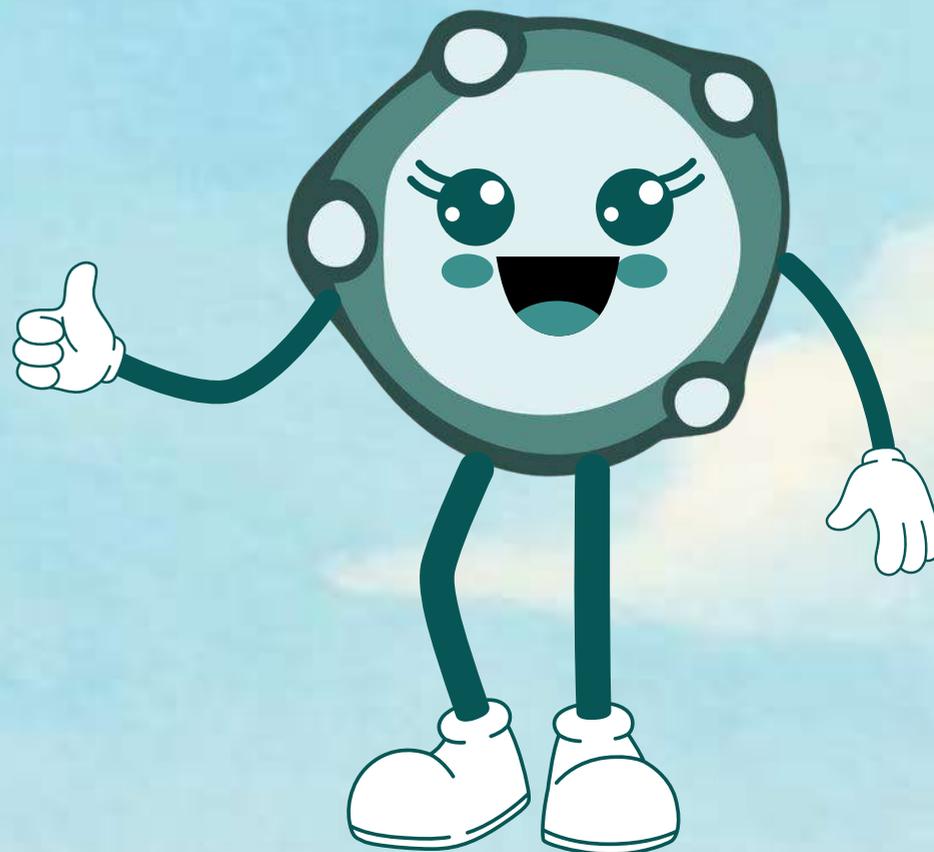
There is so much we don't know yet.

Scientists are still discovering what this little creature does, how it lives, and how it fits in with all the other teeny tiny tummy friends.

So when you hear a big science word like *Blastocystis*, you can smile and say:

"I know what that means: There's a world with secrets still to uncover!"





Blastocystis
under One Health