

Moulds

Are...

microorganisms

a type of fungus

helpful and harmful because there are many different kinds of mould

usually seen growing on the surface of objects

Look...

mostly fluffy or downy (hyphae)

green, blue, brown, orange or yellow

carefully at mould – if you can see it with your eyes then it is a large mould. Otherwise it is too small for our eyes to see.

Need...

some light

moisture

things like books, food, and paper to grow on and use as food

cool-to-warm conditions

DO NOT GROW WELL IN...

very cold or hot conditions

direct ultraviolet light (sunlight)

dry environments

SPORES...

reproduce by producing spores that can be found in the air and soil

stay alive for long periods of time in a dormant state

PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN...

helping to create antibiotics such as Penicillin

breaking down and recycling dead plant and animal material

production of some foods

the ecosystem

