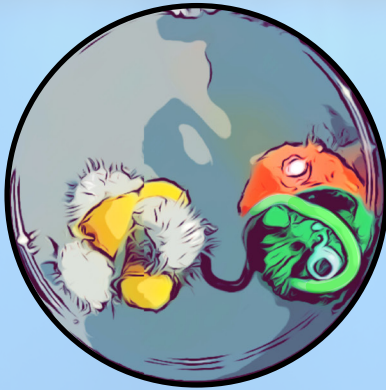




# A Recipe for... the GETALONG protocell



holds two parts together:



makes food that is used by  
to build new parts.

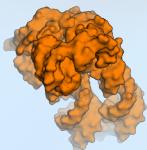


It also holds down  that grows the surface  
and expands the protocell.

When big enough, a breath of wind is enough to divide it.

The getalong houses a production line:  
new food is turned into new parts. Also able  
to grow in size, it is a true all-rounder.

## What is... a Metaboliser RNA?



RNAs are made up of a strand of building block 'letters'. Some strands of letters can fold up into **3D shapes** that perform **chemical reactions**. If an RNA made new building blocks from smaller chemicals (able to seep into the protocell) it would build up a **supply of food**.

## What is... an iron-sulfur cluster?



Our cells use clusters of two, four or eight iron and sulfur atoms to carry out hard chemistry: stripping electrons from molecules. We have shown how **UV light** could put together these clusters on the early Earth. They may team up with peptides to unlock **new chemical pathways**, making more protocell surface or RNA building blocks.

Find out more:



<https://mrc.io/recipe4life>

