



COLOURFUL LIFE.

phaeno

da staunst du.



COMPARE the visible areas of the mud pictures, with those hidden behind the rubber flaps.

The mud appears in various colours: red, green, orange and grey-brown. Behind the flaps that block the light the developing colours differ from the ones in the surrounding areas. The colours are made by different bacteria in the mud. The different bacteria produce colour pigments in different colours.

These colourful bacteria trap light for living energy to make their own food. With the light's energy the bacteria transform carbon dioxide into sugar via a series of chemical reactions. This process is called photosynthesis, and it supplies all plants with energy. The bacteria are not only colourful but also useful. Many can digest harmful substances, which is being used for biological cleaning of waste water.