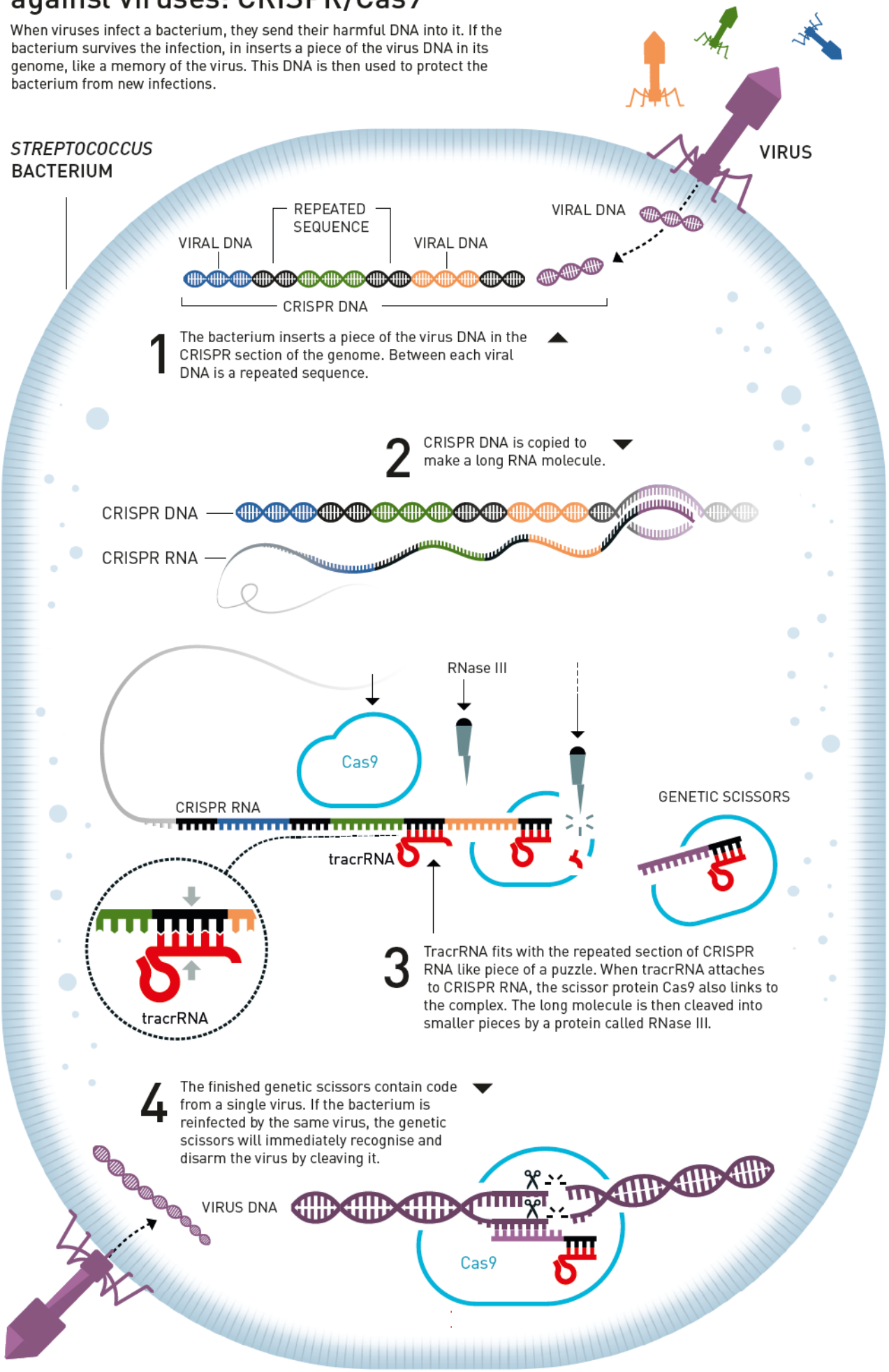
Streptococcus' natural immune system against viruses: CRISPR/Cas9

When viruses infect a bacterium, they send their harmful DNA into it. If the bacterium survives the infection, in inserts a piece of the virus DNA in its genome, like a memory of the virus. This DNA is then used to protect the bacterium from new infections.



©Johan Jarnestad/The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences