The Arizona Science Center and Ask A Biologist have joined forces in building Body Depot, a place where you can learn about your amazing body. Visit Body Depot online at askabiologist.asu.edu/body-depot.

Read a real monster tale about the tiniest instruction manual that you carry around in each of your cells. Then try out Monster Builder, a fun game where you decode and build your own monsters. You can find it at askabiologist.asu.edu/monster-manual.

VIRAL ATTACK
COLORING BOOK

The Story of Your Body’s Incredible Defense System
Get the whole story behind the Viral Attack comic book at http://askabiologist.asu.edu/viral-attack

Credits
Sholly Fisch
Original Script

Laura Martin & Charles Kazilek
Revised Script

Sabine Deviche
Illustration
Prologue

There are battles that are fought each day around the planet. The invading forces are those of viruses and bacteria. Left alone they would take over and destroy every cell!

It is up to some key defense systems to battle and destroy these forces. Our immune system is one such defense system. A collection of special cells in our body are ready to attack any unwanted bacteria and virus. Together these cells are able to seek out and destroy unwanted viruses and return our bodies to their normal working order.

Cast

This story has young actors playing the role of the cells. Each cell has a special job that they do that helps our body do work and fight off infections like viruses. As you will see there are many different cells that work together to fight off infections like viruses.
Our story begins with a sore throat, the kind that is red and hurts to swallow.

The attack started as a single virus that multiplied in the body to become an invading army. Left alone, they would take over and destroy every cell.

It is up to some key defense systems to battle and defeat these forces.

Let's see how these specialized cells that are part of the immune system work together to return our bodies to working order.

Our body has many types of cells. One type is called the epithelial cell.

This epithelial cell is nice and happy, but not for long...

AHHH!!!

hehehe
At first, the virus is inside just a few cells in the throat, not causing too much harm. The body doesn’t even notice. Hello, you're just one itsy bitsy virus. This isn’t so bad.

But the problem with viruses is... they multiply! Two days later:

Ughh, I don’t feel too good.

I’m going to need some help!

Uh-oh, too late!

HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP
What a mess!
Look at all these loose viruses.

We need to get these cleaned up quickly or the other epithelial cells will be in terrible danger!!

Hello!
You're just in time!

I heard your alarm.
I'm Macrophage, the first member of the body's immune system clean up crew.

Let's get this mess cleaned up!
There are too many! It's more than I can clean up by myself.

We need to do something quickly or these leftover viruses will attack other epithelial cells.

Time to call for backup.

T-Cells, we need your help!

Where are the infected cells?

Hey Killer and Helper T-Cell. I don't feel too good.
Looks like we're too late for this one.

He has too many viruses inside already.

Killer T, you'll have to destroy the cell.

It's the only way to stop more viruses from being released.

Viruses, meet my cytotoxin gun!

OK!

WHIRL

WHOOSH!!
It's working!

Thanks Helper T.

But there are still some viruses around.

No problem, I'll just call for back up.

B-Cell, we need your help!
Hi B-Cell.

Hey Helper T!

What a mess! Let's get these viruses all cleaned up.

I don't see any left...

looks like that's the last of them.

swish swish

The body should be feeling much better now!

And now to alert the other B-Cells to this virus.

All the B-Cells that see this will become Memory B-Cells. They'll be able to quickly recognize this virus if it ever comes back.
I’m feeling much better today. My immune system really came to the rescue!

Credits

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Plan your next visit to the Arizona Science Center and play the part of your favorite Viral Attack character in the live stage production of Viral Attack.
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