

# Introduction to Viruses

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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## What are viruses?

- microscopic, \_\_\_\_\_ capable of reproducing only \_\_\_\_\_ living cells
- "virus" is Latin for "\_\_\_\_\_"
- often referred to as \_\_\_\_\_
- range in size from \_\_\_\_\_
- range in \_\_\_\_\_

## Characteristics of Viruses

- viruses can be classified as \_\_\_\_\_ depending on the characteristics examined

## Nonliving Characteristics of Viruses

- aren't made of \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)
- depend on host for (i.e. can't do these on their own):
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- can be \_\_\_\_\_

## Living Characteristics of Viruses

- can \_\_\_\_\_
- contain \_\_\_\_\_
- have a \_\_\_\_\_
- can \_\_\_\_\_
- can \_\_\_\_\_

## Structure of Viruses

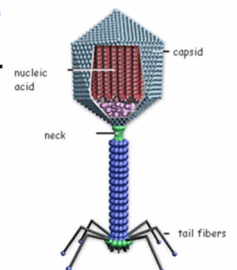
- All viruses consist of:
  - inner core of \_\_\_\_\_
  - protein coat called a \_\_\_\_\_
- Some of the structures that viruses can contain are:

Structure	Description
Capsid	Protein coat that surrounds a nucleic acid core
Nucleic Acid (RNA or DNA)	Genetic material of virus
Tail Fibres	Structures by which a phage attaches to the bacterium
Head	Top part of a phage, which consists of the capsid and genetic material
Tail	Bottom part of bacteriophage

## Representative Virus: Bacteriophage

### What are bacteriophages?

- viruses that infect and destroy \_\_\_\_\_
- have a more complex structure with a \_\_\_\_\_



## Viral Specificity

- viruses tend to infect \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. a particular virus will only infect particular organisms or groups of organisms)
- for example: bacteriophage viruses infect only bacteria, however the rabies virus can infect any \_\_\_\_\_  
(\_\_\_\_\_)