

Act out being a germ

Show the drawings of viruses and bacteria on the next page. Tell the children to look at the picture to see what the germs would look like if we could see them with our eyes. They are so tiny we need a special tool called a microscope to see them. If you looked at bacteria and viruses under a microscope you would see that viruses have sharp edges and bacteria are round.

Have the children stand up and act out being a virus and bacteria.

First be a virus. Viruses have very sharp edges so make your body have sharp lines – straight arms and legs. You can bend at the elbow but keep everything stiff and straight.

Now let's be bacteria! Bacteria have round shapes so make your body rounded – curve your back, soft round arms, floppy legs. Now let's move around in a circle: you're a virus – sharp edges, stiff arms and legs, and back; now you're a bacteria, round and soft. Now make yourself small. Imagine yourself so tiny that no one can even see you and you're on a person's hand. That's how bacteria and virus germs work: they go on hands which can get in our mouth, nose, or eyes and we get sick. But don't worry, we know how to keep healthy – we wash our hands!

How are they different?

Bacteria



Viruses

