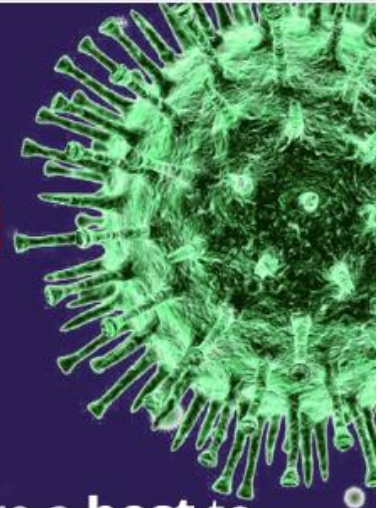


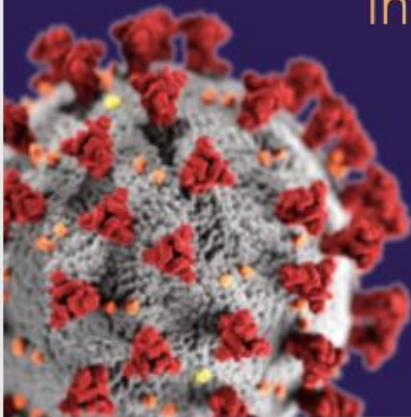
# What exactly is a VIRUS?



- Viruses are microscopic parasites that require a **host** to live
  - This means that viruses need to enter a human body or an animal in order to reproduce and survive
- Once a virus enters a host, it attaches itself to the surface of a cell using cell receptors
- After the virus has entered the cell, it uses the cell's proteins and machinery in order to reproduce its own genetic make-up
- Essentially, until the host is able to fight off the virus, the virus will continue to reproduce
- Feelings of sickness represent your body's attempt to fight off viral infection!

Examples of viral infections include the common cold, Influenza (the flu), Ebola, COVID-19, and HIV

\*Vaccines work to prevent disease by allowing your body to prepare for a possible viral infection ahead of time\*



Made by Shreya Ohri

Source: <https://www.livescience.com/53272-what-is-a-virus.html>