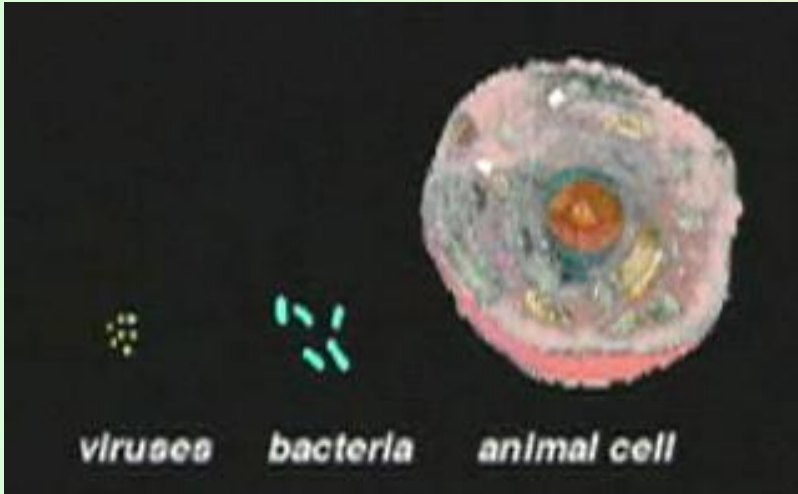


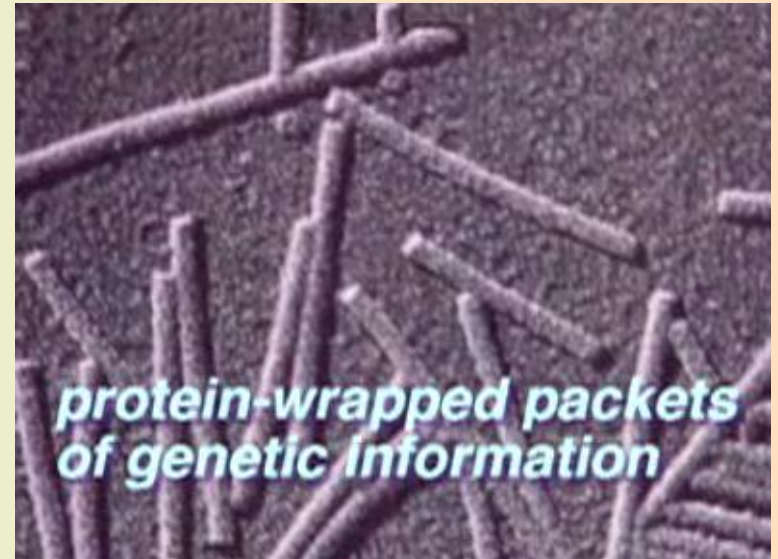
Viruses



They are protein-wrapped packets of genetic information.

Viruses are much smaller than bacteria.

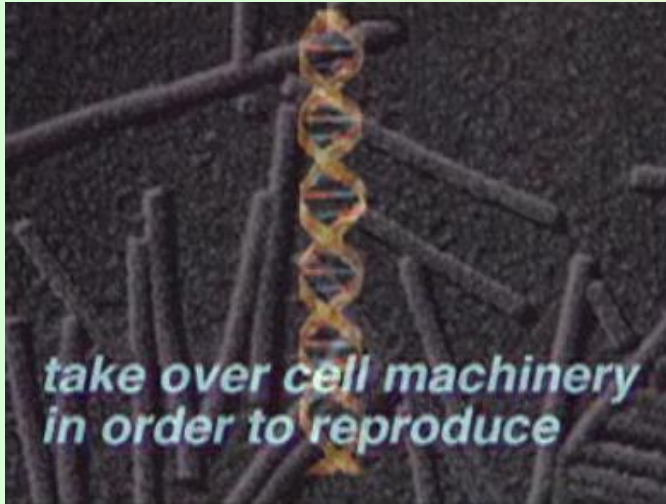
Viruses are not living things (they are not capable of making copies of themselves).



Video:

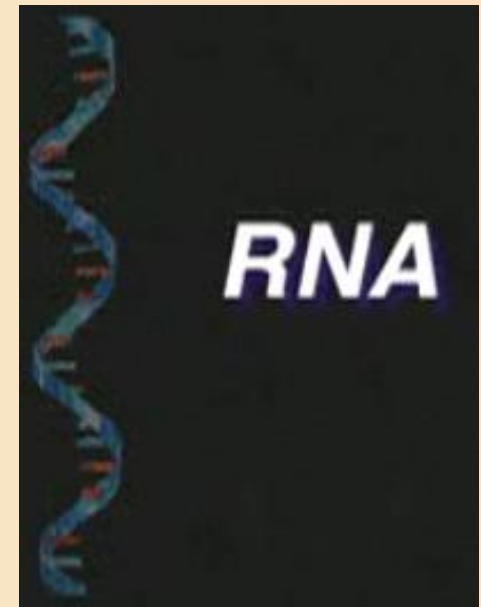
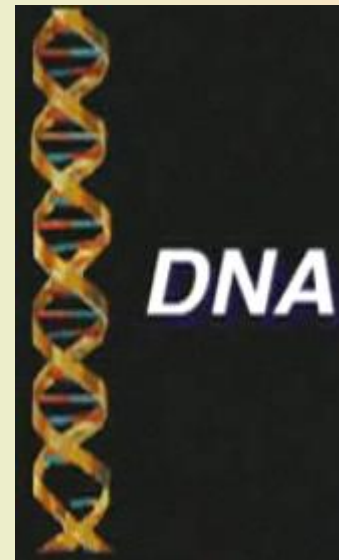
<http://videos.howstuffworks.com/hsw/10453-the-microscopic-world-viruses-video.htm>

Viruses



Their genetic information is stored in a double strand molecule (DNA) or a single strand molecule (RNA).

They need an external living cell in order to reproduce.



Viruses



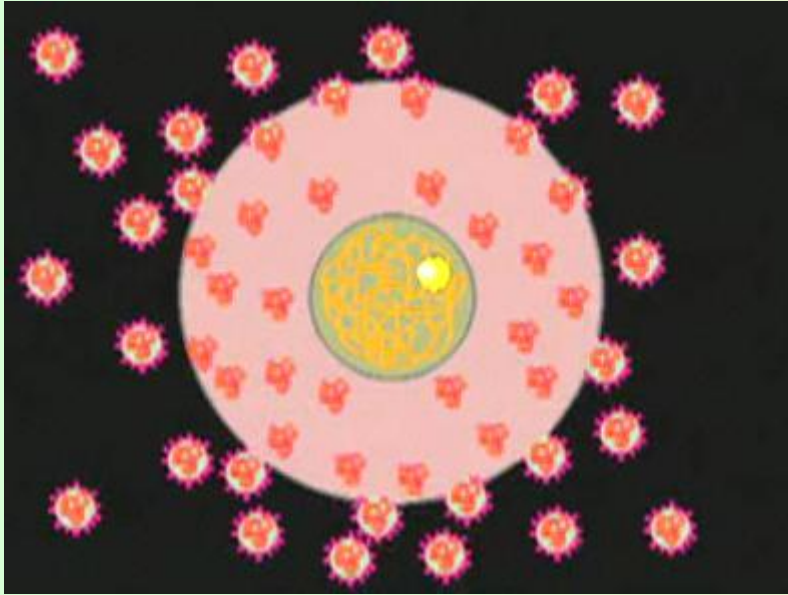
The virus attaches to the cell membrane, injects its genetic information (DNA or RNA) into the cytoplasm.

The protein coat that surrounds the genetic information dissolves. From the viral genetic information some enzymes (molecules) are built.

After viral genetic information is surrounded by protein, migrates to the surface of the cell.



Viruses



The membrane of the host cell and the host cell itself is destroyed.

The copies of viruses can go on infecting other cells.