



Teacher Resource

Flu Season

Focus Questions


Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Summarise the BTN Flu Season story.
2. The flu is caused by
 - a. A type of bacteria
 - b. A parasite
 - c. A virus
3. What are some symptoms of the flu?
4. What can people do to prevent the flu from spreading?
5. What questions do you have about the BTN story?

Activity: Class Discussion

Before watching

Before watching the BTN Flu Season story students will discuss in pairs or small groups what they already know about the flu and how it impacts people. Have they ever had the flu? How did it make them feel? What symptoms did they have?



What do you know about the flu?

After watching

Students will respond to one or more of the following questions after watching the BTN story:

- What are some symptoms of the flu? Make a list.
- What are treatments for the flu? Make a list.
- What are health experts warning about the flu season this year?
- Why is vaccination considered important, particularly for those who are high-risk?
- Think of three questions you have about the story.



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KEY LEARNING

Students will learn more about the influenza virus and the role vaccines play in controlling disease.

CURRICULUM

Health and Physical Education – Year 3 and 4

Identify and practise strategies to promote health, safety, and wellbeing.

Health and Physical Education – Year 5 and 6

Plan and practise strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.

Health and Physical Education – Year 7 and 8

Investigate and select strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing.

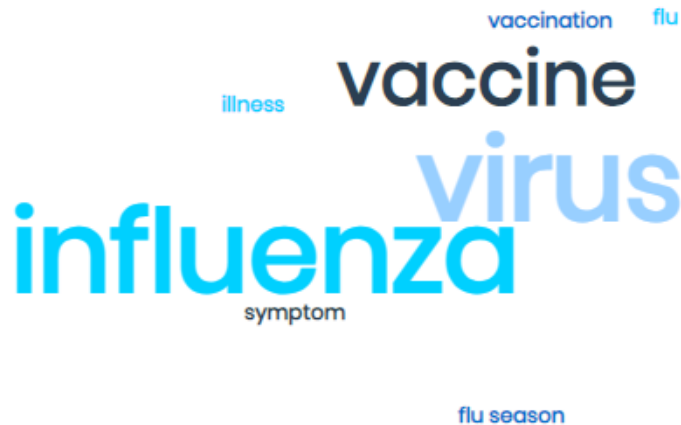
Plan and use health practices, behaviours and resources to enhance health, safety and wellbeing of their communities.

Science – Year 5 and 6

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

Activity: Word Cloud

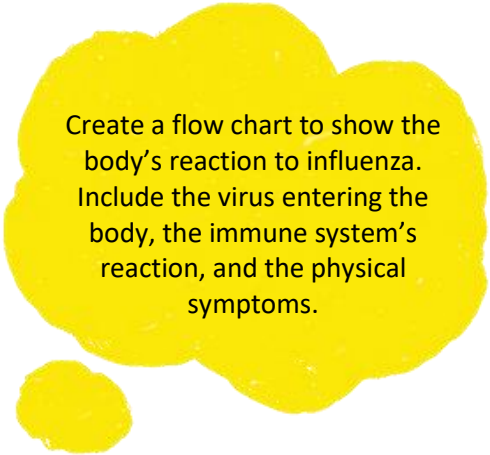
Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Flu Season story and create a word cloud. A word cloud is a visual made up of important/key words relating to a topic. Ask students to think of words they associate with influenza. Create a word cloud using a free online word cloud creator such as [MonkeyLearn](#) or [Word It Out](#). Working in pairs, students can clarify the meanings of the words included in their word clouds.



Activity: Flu Research

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Flu Season story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students' knowledge? Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one or more of the questions below.

- What is a virus? How do they spread and why do they make us sick?
- What is influenza and how does it differ from the common cold? Create a Venn diagram to show the similarities and differences.
- How does influenza affect the body? Use the following scientific words in your description: symptom, virus, immune system, and antibodies.
- How does the immune system respond to the flu and how do vaccines help to protect against it?
- How does the influenza virus spread? What can be done to prevent it spreading?
- How does the influenza virus change over time? Why do we need a new flu vaccine each year?
- What are some myths about influenza and colds? For example, you can catch colds and flu from cold weather or getting caught in the rain.
- What are some reasons why people choose not to get vaccinated?



Create a flow chart to show the body's reaction to influenza. Include the virus entering the body, the immune system's reaction, and the physical symptoms.

Activity: What are vaccines?

Students will investigate what a vaccine is and the impact they have had on controlling disease. They will then research the impact a particular vaccine has had.

- What is a vaccine?
- What vaccines do you know about?
- What vaccines have you received?
- How do vaccines work?
- What impact have vaccines had on controlling disease?
- Why are most vaccinations given in the early years of a person's life?
- Why is it important to vaccinate against rare disease?
- What is the future of vaccinations? Predict what vaccines may be available during your lifetime.

Further Investigation:

Investigate the impact a particular vaccine has had on controlling disease. Choose from one of the following: *Polio*, *MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)*, *diphtheria*, *tetanus*, *whooping cough*, *Hepatitis B* or *Chicken Pox*.

Activity: Choose a project

Individually or in small groups, students will choose one of the following projects to work on and then present their findings to the class.

Quiz

Create a true or false quiz to test your classmate's knowledge about influenza.

Did you know?

Using the information in the BTN story and your own research, create a *Did You Know* fact sheet to show what you have learnt. Publish using [Canva](#)

History of Vaccines

Students match the scientist to the disease they helped prevent by playing the [Pioneer Breakthroughs matching game](#)

Public Education Campaign

Design a public education campaign to raise awareness about influenza and ways the public can protect themselves.

Useful Websites

- [NSW's flu season is on track to arrive early. But who's at risk, and should we be concerned?](#) – ABC News
- [Flu Season Concerns](#) – BTN
- [Flu Season](#) - BTN
- [Flu](#) – Health Direct
- [Influenza](#) – Better Health Channel