

# Don't Catch The Cold

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Duration:

LEVEL	SUBJECTS	PROVINCES / TERRITORIES	TOOL
Grades 1-3	Science and Technology	Across Canada	

## Overview

This game is played as a class to help students connect how viruses in our bodies with how a virus in a computer works and how they might be similar and also different.

### Prep Work

- Plan to adjust the game as need be for your classroom environment. Alternatively a classic clapping game like "Stella Ella Ola" might work as a way to get students started playing the game.

### Lesson

#### Introduction

- After reviewing the immune system or body system explain and define a computer system
- Prompt students by asking them what the parts of the computer are?
- Ask students about some of the programs

## Key Coding Concepts

- ✓ Debugging
- ✓ Virus
- ✓ Operating System
- ✓ System

## Terminology

### Debugging

Finding problems or 'bugs' in code and solving them

### Virus

A computer virus is a piece of software that causes malfunction or issues on a computer machine. A computer virus can infect or transmit to other computers usually with

or things they might DO on a computer

- Explain a computer operating system
- Explain what a computer virus is

### Activity

1. Have students sit in a circle
2. Explain to students that they will be playing a clapping game where there will be one student who leads or sets the pattern of the game
3. Instruct students that there will be another student who is trying to subtly break the pattern. They will be the virus
4. The rest of the students will after a set amount of time the student will try and guess who is the virus and who is the leader
5. Have students close their eyes and select one student to be the leader and one student to be the virus
6. Have students begin to clap their hands on their knees
7. Watch as the students try and see who is making/breaking the pattern
8. Explain that when we try to solve a problem on the computer, we call it “debugging”
9. After the game goes on for a set amount of time (5 or so minutes) see if students can guess who was the leader and who was the virus

### Assessment

What was fun about the game? Was it easy or hard to be the leader? How about the virus? How are computer viruses different from viruses in our bodies? How might they be similar? Listen to this episode of the podcast [Brains On!](#) To learn more about the common cold

the same operating system.

### Operating system

An operating system is the visuals of the computer you see when you use it. It supports the basic function of the computer like opening emails, saving files, displaying/saving photo

### System

A computer system is the complete computer made up of all it's parts both hardware the physical part of the computer (like the keys) and software the visual part of the computer (what happens on the screen)

Extension

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