Important note: This activity does not show the actual workings of a virus or the body's immune system.

What you need:

- pencil
- shiny, clear tape (such as store brand cellophane tape or packaging tape)
- matte-finish translucent tape (such as Scotch "Magic" Tape)

What it means:

The three figures at right stand for people who will be exposed to the H1N1 flu virus. The "no tape" figure represents a person with no immunity to the H1N1 flu virus. The pencil (H1N1 virus) makes a dark mark, showing that the H1N1 virus can infect this person's cells.

The middle figure represents a person who has had an H1N1 flu vaccine. The pencil (H1N1 virus) can only make a very light mark because the cells have developed antibodies to the H1N1 flu virus.

The figure on the far right represents a person who has had a vaccination for this year's seasonal flu. The pencil (H1N1 virus) can still make a strong mark because the cells have developed antibodies to the seasonal flu virus but not to the H1N1 flu virus.

Find out more:

Why should you thank a chicken and a cow for your flu vaccine? How do vaccines work? Why do you need to get both seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccines? Read all about it at www.terrificscience.org/flu.

Vaccinate me!

Here's an activity to help you remember that each type of vaccine protects against a specific kind of bacteria or virus.

- The three figures stand for people who will be exposed to the H1N1 flu virus.
- A pencil stands for the H1N1 virus.
- Tape stands for a vaccine.
- A dark pencil mark stands for getting infected by the virus.



