

Vaccinations “Shots: Keeping People and Pets Healthy

Grade 3-5

Slide 2:

Raise your hand if you have ever had a shot.

Do any of you have pets?

Have your pets ever had a shot?

Getting a shot is not a lot of fun, but is very important. People and pets need shots to keep them healthy.

Do you know WHY we need shots?

Slide 3:

Have you ever caught a cold and got sick? Colds are caused by germs. Germs are extremely tiny organisms that you can only see under a strong microscope. They can get inside your body and make you feel sick. There are many different kinds of germs. Some germs infect people. Other germs infect dogs or cats. Some germs can infect both people and pets.

Some germs make you only a little sick (like catching a cold). There are other germs that are more serious, and that can make people and pets very, very sick.

Slide 4:

Thankfully, people and animals have a powerful friend that helps protect them from germs. The Immune System!

The immune system is a part of the body that attacks and stops germs, keeping you healthy and happy.

Slide 5:

When you get sick from a germ, your immune system “learns” about the germ after it gets in your body, then it fights the germs, and you get better. The great thing is that your immune system “remembers” these germs. The next time you are near those germs, your immune system recognizes them and fights them off right away, so you do not get sick at all.

Slide 6:

Wouldn't it be great if our immune system could learn to protect us from a germ without us having to get sick first?

Slide 7:

Vaccines teach the immune system about bad germs, so it is ready to protect the body against germs.

This dog is getting a shot against a germ called Distemper. Distemper is a germ that can make dogs very sick. After the dog gets shots against Distemper a few times, its immune system is ready to fight distemper, and the dog can stay healthy. By the way, people do not get sick from Distemper – it is just a dog disease. Pets and people get vaccines against different diseases. Dogs get dog shots. Kids get kid shots.

Slide 8:

Children, puppies and kittens all need shots while they are young. Many shots are given more than one time. When all the shots are done, the immune system is ready to protect the body against many different diseases.

Slide 9:

Shots are so important! Getting shots for everyone is one of the many ways that grown ups protect young ones.

Slide 10:

Questions?