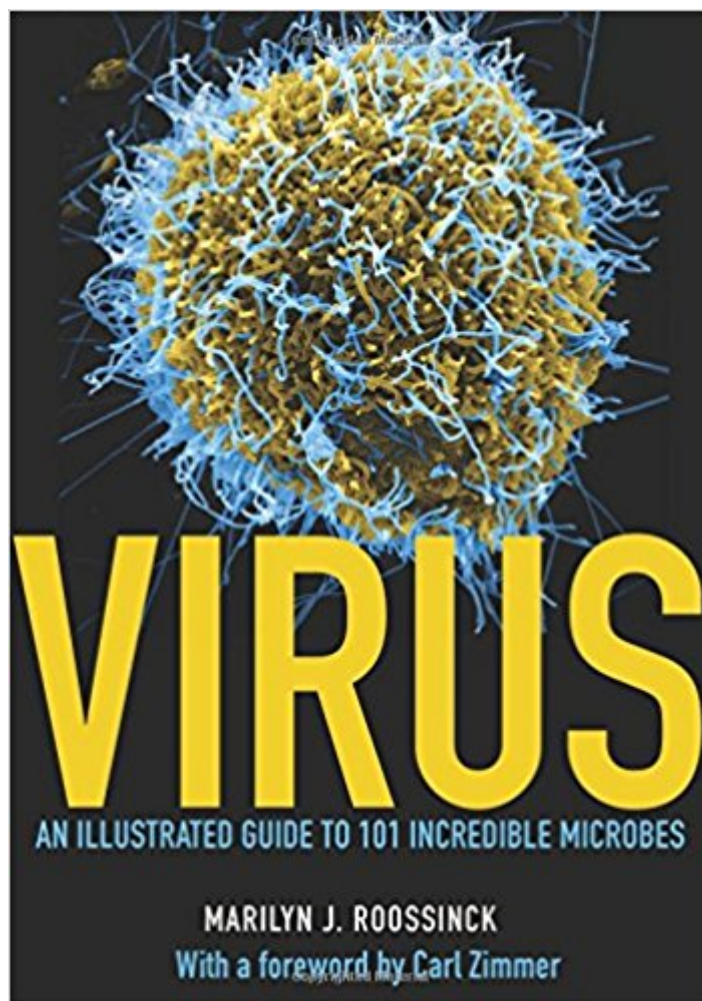


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# Virus: An Illustrated Guide To 101 Incredible Microbes



## Synopsis

This stunningly illustrated book provides a rare window into the amazing, varied, and often beautiful world of viruses. Contrary to popular belief, not all viruses are bad for you. In fact, several are beneficial to their hosts, and many are crucial to the health of our planet. *Virus* offers an unprecedented look at 101 incredible microbes that infect all branches of life on Earth—from humans and other animals to insects, plants, fungi, and bacteria. Featuring hundreds of breathtaking color images throughout, this guide begins with a lively and informative introduction to virology. Here readers can learn about the history of this unique science, how viruses are named, how their genes work, how they copy and package themselves, how they interact with their hosts, how immune systems counteract viruses, and how viruses travel from host to host. The concise entries that follow highlight important or interesting facts about each virus. Learn about the geographic origins of dengue and why old tires and unused pots help the virus to spread. Read about Ebola, Zika, West Nile, Frog virus 3, the Tulip breaking virus, and many others—how they were discovered, what their hosts are, how they are transmitted, whether or not there is a vaccine, and much more. Each entry is easy to read and includes a graphic of the virus, and nearly every entry features a colorized image of the virus as seen through the microscope. Written by a leading authority, this handsomely illustrated guide reveals the unseen wonders of the microbial world. It will give you an entirely new appreciation for viruses.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[A] stunning explication of 101 viruses that infect everything from humans to archaea. Along with basics on life cycles, transmission and more, Roossinck offers succinct descriptions, schematic drawings and a gallery of electron-microscopy images."--Barbara Kiser, *Nature*"What Roger Tory Peterson did for birds, Penn State University virologist Marilyn J. Roossinck has done for viruses. . . . [B]eautifully illustrated."--Laurence A. Marshall, *Natural History*"[A] very useful resource."--*Booklist*"This well-illustrated guide provides an introduction to the biology of viruses and history of virology, as well as singling out 101 of these infectious agents to profile in more depth."--*Science News Magazine*"A visually appealing resource that will be useful for virologists while simultaneously appealing to the layperson curious about the fascinating and vital role these organisms play in the ecosystem."--*Library Journal*"The rise of the Zika virus was one of the most troubling medical stories of the past year--and yes, it's covered in this richly illustrated rogue's gallery by virologist Marilyn J. Roossinck. There's also a graphic explanation of the inner workings of viruses, and a foreword by renowned science writer Carl Zimmer."--Alan Boyle, *GeekWire*"This light, richly illustrated overview of 100 different viruses is most appropriate for general readers."--*Choice*

"Viruses rule our world. They both threaten to kill us and help to regulate the food webs of oceans. They embed themselves in our DNA and stalk the bacteria in our guts. They are ever-present, understudied, and, as this book makes more clear than any other has, beautiful. Roossinck provides a window into the diminutive architecture of our viruses, their grandeur, horror, details, and stories. Her book is a reminder that the world is always more interesting than it seems."--Rob Dunn, author of *The Man Who Touched His Own Heart: True Tales of Science, Surgery, and Mystery*"Viruses are a microscopic but fundamentally important part of every ecosystem on the planet. By mixing spectacular illustrations with summaries of the properties of 101 viruses, this *Field guide* brings the hidden world of these fascinating microbes to life."--Jonathan Eisen, University of California, Davis"This is a wonderful book that educates readers about the variety, uses, and history of viruses. Roossinck does not take the expected position that all viruses are bad, but instead reveals the complexity and surprising diversity of them."--Erica Ollmann Saphire, Scripps Research Institute"Absolutely terrific."--Sunetra Gupta, University of Oxford

I love this book by my colleague Marilyn Roossinck. It's beautiful, an Audubon-like picture book of viruses. A fabulous addition to any coffee table. But I've also been enjoying just dipping in to find weird things. A virus that causes tulips to be striped might have caused the first economic bubble.

The biggest virus yet discovered was found 120 feet down in a ice core. Roossinck has chosen 101 "remarkable" viruses, and for each there is a striking picture and a few hundred easy-reading words on what makes them remarkable. Now, aficionados will disagree with her choice. For example, she is missing the hugely interesting Marek's disease virus, which in just 50 years went from benign to one of the most lethal viruses known, an evolutionary process that led to the first anti-cancer vaccine. But for sure her eclectic choice makes you think. She covers the classic (measles) and the newsworthy (Zika), as well as the obscure (an apparently pointless virus of penicillin-producing fungi), the beneficial (a virus that is good for clover) and the downright fun (a virus that turns its host blue). If you've ever wondered about what's in the invisible world that shapes our lives so much, this is the book for you. If you live with someone who has no such wonder, leave this book lying around.-- Andrew Read, Evan Pugh Professor of Biology and Entomology, Eberly Professor of Biotechnology, and Director, Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics, Penn State.

This is a great resource if only the words were larger. The print is very small for even the normal reader. Pictures are great.

Hard to read book style. Good for reference not for casual reading. Pages are scanned so the reader had to pan up and down

This book is awesome! I like that it details the history of virology. Amazing picture quality.

Really good book to have a good understanding on viruses.

Extremely well done Print was small and difficult to read comfortably

Great pictures and lots of great data.

This book was my first exposure to virology, and I enjoyed the book immensely. I suspect that anyone interested in biology / microbiology / molecular biology would enjoy the book. Although the colorized micrographs don't have much didactic value, they do add much visual interest to the book. I disagree with other reviewers who claim that the type is too small and difficult to read: it wasn't possible for the book designer to use a larger type and keep the book a reasonable size, considering the amount of information packed into the book. This book would be appropriate for an

advanced high school biology class or undergrad course in virology. Recommended!

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