What is a vaccine?
A vaccine is a type of medicine that protects you from getting sick with a disease.

Are vaccines important?
Yes - while most medicines treat disease, vaccines stop you from getting a disease!

How do vaccines work?
Vaccines help your body learn to recognize and fight germs so you don't get sick from a disease in the future. This is called immunity. Vaccines contain the same germs that cause a disease, but these germs have been killed or weakened so they don't make you sick!

Are vaccines safe?
Vaccines are tested to make sure they are safe for most people. Like any medicine, in rare cases, some people may have allergic or other unexpected reactions to vaccines.

Are vaccines common?
Yes - vaccines are very common. Most people get vaccines when they are children to prevent diseases like measles and polio. Many people also get a flu vaccine (flu shot) each year.

When you get a vaccine, you help keep yourself and your community healthy.

If you have questions about vaccines, ask your health care provider or a pharmacist. You can also visit www.vaccinefinder.org to find a vaccine provider near you.