Biophage – Tutorial

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION

In Biophage, you take control of a virus infection within a blood stream.

In doing so you will need to infect and divide blood cells so that your viurs can survive attacks from other viruses, imuune system, and medication.

A – CONTINUE

{ show next screen }

2. VIRUS CAPSID

At the start of a new game you control a virus capsid.

This virus capsid has been introduced into the blood stream from the outside and needs you to manouver it towards a blood cell. Once the virus capsid touches a blood cell, it will infect that cell.

You must decide which blood cell type you want to infect first quickly otherwise the virus capsid will disolve and the game will end (a count down will indicate the time you have left to achieve this task).

[I A virus capsid is not an organic cell itself, but a complex protein structure used to deliver virus DNA / RNA between cells]

You have 30 seconds to infect a cell, do so now.

A – CONTINUE

{ starts a new game, if: -capsid fails to infect cell in time, show this screen again. Else: -show next screen. }

3. CELL CLUSTER

Infected cells belong in groups called 'cell clusters'.

In the game you control cell clusters with the following actions:

a) Divide cells (Mitosis) – produces more cells in the cell cluster.

b) Chase uninfected cells – commands the cluster to 'hunt' down the uninfected cell that you have chosen so that it may infect that cell and add it to the cluster.

c) Battle enemy cluster – commands the cluster to 'hunt' down an enemy cluster that you have

chosen to battle.

d) Evade enemy cluster – commands the cluster to 'evade' or 'retreat' from an enemy cluster that you have chosen.

e) Split the cluster – forms a new cell cluster from the selected cluster. This allows you to create many sepparate clusters that can be controlled independently from each other.

f) Hybrid cells – Combines two different cell types into one hybrid cell type, more on this later.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

4. NUTRIENTS

The main economy in Biopahge is nutrients. Nutrients are required to divide cells.

Each cell has a distinct nutrient income rate that graduly adds to the cell's nutrient store. Cells get nutrients directly from the blood plasma and time is the only factor in gathering nutrients. Cells also have a maximum nutrient storage.

Different cell types have different nutrient income rates, different maximum nutrient storage capacity, and requires different amounts of nutrients to divide. In a cluster, nutrients are shared between all the cells.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

5. CELL TYPES

Different cell types exist in Biophage and each have unique properties.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

5a. Red Blood Cells

Red blood cells are plentiful in the blood stream. They do not provide much battle power individually, but they are cheap (in nutrients) to divide.

Red blood cells could be likened to a Pawn in Chess.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

5b. Platelet cells

Platelets are an aggressive cell type that are faster and have more battle power than Read blood cells. However, they are not as plentiful in the blood stream and require more nutrients to divide.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

5c. 'Tank' cells

Tanks are bigger and slower compared to Red blood cells and Platelets, but they provide the greatest battle power than any other cell type (equivalent to ten times the battle power of red blood cells). However, tanks require a lot of nutrients to divide.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

5d. 'Silo' cells

Silos are the biggest cell type in the game. They are also the slowest moving and most vulnerable in battle. However, due to their size, thay can retain a greater amount of nutrients and have a high nutrient income rate due to their large surface area.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

6. CHASE UNINFECTED CELL COMMAND

Now, lets command the cell cluster to infect a different type of cell to add it to the cluster.

Enter the 'ACTION SELECT' option (X button) to bring up the cursor.

A – CONTINUE

{ unpause game and wait for player to enter 'action select' option }

6a. ACTION SELECT OPTION

In 'action select', you control a little white dot (called the cursor) that you can move around the blood stream environment similar to the virus capsid.

Move the cursor over an uninfected until the 'INFECT' option appears.

A – CONTINUE

{ unpause the game (making sure the cursor is selected) and wait for the cluster to infect a cell }

6b. ACTION SELECT OPTION

Great, you have just mastered at giving you cell clusters commands.

Note that you command a cell cluster via the 'action select' option to battle or evade enemy clusters, or combine with a friendly cell cluster, in a similar manner to infecting uninfected cells.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

7. DIVIDE CELLS

Now, you will need to sure up the cell count in your cluster.

Enter the 'DIVIDE CELLS' option to bring up the DIVIDE CELLS menu.

A – CONTINUE

{ unpause game and wait for the player to bring up the divide cells menu }

7a. DIVIDE CELLS

You can only divide cells if the cell type is in the cluster to divide from and that there is enough nutrients in the cluster to permit the divide.

Try and divide some cells now.

A – CONTINUE

{ unpause game and wait for the cluster to divide cells }

8. SPLIT CELL CLUSTER

In the game you can many cell clusters simultaneously.

At the moment you just have one cluster, so lets bring up the 'split cluster' menu to sepparate this cluster's cells to form a second cluster.

Enter the 'SPLIT CLUSTER' option (B button).

A – CONTINUE

{ unpause game and wait for cluster to split into two }

9. HYBRID CELLS AND MEDICATION

OK great, just one last topic, cell hybrids and medication.

If a cell cluster contains two or more different cell types, then you can hybrid two of these cell types to form a 'hybrid' cell type.

Hybrid cells cannot divide but are 'immune' to medication.

After a gracious amount of time has elapsed, Medication will be administered into the blood stream. This medication will edadicate all infected cells of the magorety cell type. If, for example, your virus infection consisted of only Platelet cells and Platelet cells are the majority infected cell type, then your entire virus infection will be eradicated by medication, ending the game.

A – CONTINUE

{ next screen }

10. END TUTORIAL

That is it – now go out there and make some puss!

A – CONTINUE

{ unpause the game – allowing the player to experiment }