In this lesson you will learn about the main parts of a computer.

Tejas and Jyoti were in the computer room, looking at one of the computers. They were trying to see how the wires were connected together, when Moz appeared...

Moz: So, have you already noticed that a computer has many parts?
Tejas: Yes, just like we have hands, legs, eyes and ears! What are the names for the parts of a computer?

Moz: The names of the four important parts are - CPU, Monitor, Keyboard, and Mouse.
Jyoti: Why does a computer need so many parts? What do they do? How are they connected?
Moz: Good questions! Let us learn about each of these parts.

**CPU**

CPU (central processing unit) is the most important part of a computer. It is like the brain. It does all the tasks that we want the computer to do. It also controls all the other parts, like Monitor, Keyboard and Mouse. These have to be connected to the CPU, for them to work.

**Monitor**

A monitor looks like a TV screen. The CPU uses the monitor to show us photos, movies and games. The front portion of the monitor is called the screen, or display.

**Keyboard**

The keyboard is made of several small buttons called ‘keys’. Each key has a number, letter or word written on it. Just as you use a pencil to write on a paper, you can use a keyboard to write with a computer.
A mouse is used to point at items shown on the monitor. The mouse usually has two or three buttons and a small wheel between the buttons.

Tejas: You said that we could draw pictures using the computer. Can I use a mouse for drawing? How can I then take the picture home?
Moz: Yes! You can use the mouse to draw pictures. But, you need a Printer to print your picture and take it home.

Jyoti: You said that we can hear songs on the computer. From which of these parts do we hear the song?
Moz: Not from any of these parts. We need speakers to listen to songs. Remember, the speakers, printer or any other part will work only if they are connected to the CPU.

Tejas picks up the computer mouse and started playing with it.
Tejas: What are these buttons for?
Moz: Be careful! We must take proper care of the different parts. Tomorrow we will learn how to do this and then we will learn about the buttons.
Chin Chinaki…
1. Colour the parts of the computer:
Monitor in Yellow, CPU in Blue, Keyboard in Green and mouse in Red.

2. Identify, which are the parts of the computer and circle them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPU</th>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Rat</th>
<th>PUC</th>
<th>Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keyboard</td>
<td>Mouse</td>
<td>Blackboard</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat</td>
<td>Printer</td>
<td>Cupboard</td>
<td>Cooker</td>
<td>Pen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Write the names of the parts shown below.

- Monitor: M N T R
- Mouse: M U E
- Keyboard: K Y O R
- CPU: C U
4. Match the following.

- MONITOR
- MOUSE
- KEYBOARD
- SPEAKERS

5. Join the wires to the correct place.
6. Search the parts of the computer in the following picture.

7. True or False [ Write a T or F across the sentences ]
   a. CPU is the most important part of the computer.
   b. Keyboard looks like a television.
   c. Mouse helps us to point at items.
   d. Keyboard works like a pencil of the computer.
   e. You can hear a song on the computer through speakers.
   f. Mouse can print what you see on the monitor.
1. Act out Being a Computer: Play a game where your class acts out being a computer. One student acts as the Keyboard. The teacher uses the keyboard to give the computer a task to do or a problem to solve. Another student acts as CPU and solves the problem. The CPU tells the answer to the student who is acting as the Monitor, who then shows the answer. Some students could also act as the wires that connect the Keyboard to the CPU and the CPU to the Monitor. You may include a couple of students as Speakers who will sing for the class! You can take turns being different parts of a computer.

2. Draw and Colour a Computer: Draw a picture of the computer that you are using. Be sure to include all of the computer-related items on the desk in front of you. After your drawing is complete, color it and write the names of the different parts.

3. Design your own Computer System: Search for pictures of computers and the different parts. You may find them in magazines or newspapers. Take the help of your parents to cut some of these pictures. Glue the pictures on a sheet of paper to design your own computer system.
• Begin with a discussion of commonly used machines and their parts. Explain that a computer is also a machine that is made of many parts that work together.
• Show the various parts of the computer and explain their functions. If no computer is available, draw a diagram on the blackboard or distribute pictures. Other parts such as printer, speakers, etc. can be covered depending on existing familiarity and the pace at which the children learn.
• Demonstrate the function of each part of the computer. Open a file and type some names of students in it. Tell them about Keyboard. Ask the class where the letters are showing up while typing? They will point out to the screen. Ask them what it resembles and they will say TV. Tell them that it is called the Monitor.
• Now move the Mouse, and ask the students what is moving on the screen while moving the mouse? Teach them about the mouse pointer.
• Arouse their curiosity by asking, “How did the computer write the names on the screen when you were typing the letters?” Tell them that the CPU is doing this work. If there is a printer available, print the names of students in the class using a Printer.
• Play some music or rhymes without showing how it is done. While the music file is playing, ask the students where is the sound coming from? Tell them about speakers.
• Pointing at the CPU, ask them, “Why is the CPU having some many wires?” Summarize their responses and say it is because the different parts of the computer - monitor, mouse, keyboard, speakers, and printer - are all connected to the CPU. Just as your head controls your hands and legs the CPU is computer's head and it controls all its parts.
• Mention about laptop and where are the different parts in it. (For Laptops/computers with inbuilt speakers, there are no separate speakers.) Remember to adapt your explanation to suit the kind of system you are using at your school.
• Conclude the lesson with a discussion about how the computer works. Emphasize that it will not do anything until you tell it what exactly to do.

Further Reading:
http://www.computerlabkids.com/parts.htm
http://library.thinkquest.org/5862/partsof.htm
http://www.kidsdomain.com/brain/computer/lesson/comp_les1.html