

WELLCOME LIBRARY LEARNING RESOURCE



GCSE HISTORY MEDICINE THROUGH TIME TEACHERS' NOTES

How did people explain the plague – and how to avoid it – before they knew the real cause?

A key idea in the SHP GCSE Medicine Through Time course is that of progress. This section examines whether progress can be seen in the treatment of plague and the precautions taken against it. The topic of plague is a good one for this, as it reveals both theoretical approaches, based on what people at the time thought about the nature and causes of illness, and practical approaches, based on what people had observed to work.

Task 1 enables students to sort the evidence by date and by theory of cause. Task 2 then shows what these results look like plotted on a 'lifeline'-type graph.

WEBSITES

The last word on the Black Death:

www.themiddleages.net/plague.html

Learned medical article:

www.emedicine.com/emerg/topic428.htm

Great Plague of 1665:

www.britainexpress.com/History/plague.htm

www.channel4.com/history/microsites/H/history/plague/index.html

The plague today:

www.who.int/csr/disease/plague/en

GENERAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE LINKS

History of Medicine information by period:

www.historylearningsite.co.uk/history_of_medicine.htm

Images:

http://www.wihm.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/gw_44_3/chameleon?skin.nlm

<http://medphoto.wellcome.ac.uk>

Gateway site:

<http://medhist.ac.uk>

Timeline:

www.schoolscience.co.uk/content/4/biology/abpi/history/timeline.html

www.schoolshistory.org.uk/medicine.htm