

Week One tasks

This chapter in the Kerbooodle book is all about health and medicine in Medieval times. I will be setting you pages to read and tasks to complete each week.

To begin with, you will need to log in to kerbooodle (check the help sheet on the HMS website if you are unsure). Once you have logged in, you will need to click on KS3 History 4th Edition. You will then be able to see any assignments you have been given, and complete them by clicking on the 'assessment' tab. You will also be able to look at the student book by clicking on 'digital book'.

6.1 – How smelly were people in the Middle Ages? Read the pages and complete the end of lesson assessment quiz. As an extension, you could also try completing some or all of the tasks in the book.

6.1 How smelly were the Middle Ages?

Today, we know about germs. We're taught to avoid them by washing our hands, clearing up rubbish, flushing toilets, brushing our teeth, and keeping ourselves clean. Our houses are full of cleaning products designed to make our clothes cleaner and our surfaces germ-free! However, medieval people knew nothing about germs. They didn't have microscopes through which they could have seen them, and scientists had not proven they existed. As a result, people in the Middle Ages were a lot less fussy about living in smelly dirty places than we are today. So, just how smelly were the Middle Ages?

Objectives

- Identify how and why standards of cleanliness and personal hygiene were very different from today.
- Examine ways in which some people tried to keep themselves and their homes clean.

Key Words: cesspit, privy, public health

Source B: Part of a letter written in 1340 from King Edward III to the Lord Mayor of London.

Fact: Public health refers to the general state of health and cleanliness of the whole population, in a particular place at a particular time. This chapter looks at Britain's public health in the Middle Ages.

Over to You:

- Make a list about your own personal hygiene – what have you done over the last few days to keep yourself clean, tidy and as germ-free as possible?
- Underline the things in your list that people in medieval times would not have been able to do.
- Use your list to help you write 3-5 reasons why people in the Middle Ages were not as clean as we are today.

Read Source A: What offence has been committed?

Read Source B:

- Why does the king want the streets to be cleaned?
- What do his reasons tell us about what some people thought caused disease at this time?

Knowledge and Understanding:

- What did medieval people think caused illness and infection?
- Describe two ways in which medieval people tried to keep themselves healthy.

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6.2a – We're all going to die! Read the pages and complete the end of lesson assessment quiz. As an extension, you could also try completing some or all of the tasks in the book.

6.2A The Black Death: we're all going to die!

In the spring of 1348, the people of Britain were gripped by fear. A killer disease was spreading across Asia and Europe and killing thousands and thousands of people. While villages were being wiped out and no one seemed able to stop it, this disease was known as 'the Black Death' and it would go on to kill around one out of every three people.

Objectives

- Identify the main symptoms of the Black Death.
- Explain what people thought caused the disease at the time and how they tried to protect against it.

Key Words: boil, symptom

Source A: Sir James Bickley, local landowner, who wrote a list of land that the villagers work on.

Source B: Adam Smith, village blacksmith, 48 years old.

Source C: Eleanor Carter, who works for the local landowner, 26 years old.

Source D: Emma Langdale, a baker, 28 years old.

Source E: Father Peter, local priest, 38 years old.

Source F: John Edwards, works for Sir James.

Over to You:

- Write a sentence to explain the word 'symptom'. Use a modern-day example of a common symptom of an illness in your answer.
- From what you have read in the accounts on these pages, identify at least five symptoms of the Black Death. Try to put them in the order in which a victim might get them.
- Explain why the disease was called 'the Black Death'.
- List the ways in which some people thought you might catch the disease.
- Describe three ways in which the people on these pages tried to treat the disease.

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Happy kerboodling Highfielders!

Mrs Bell ☺