

THE HISTORY OF VACCINES



Scabs, Iron Lungs, and More

1. Fill in the blanks to show how our bodies fight diseases, and how vaccines help.

If you get infected with a ______, your immune system starts to make proteins called _______. The antibodies find the disease molecules, stick to them, then send a signal to other parts of the _______ immune system to kill the disease cells. As the disease cells die, you start to feel better. But some diseases are so _______ that the immune system can't fight them fast enough, and people die. A _______ teaches the body how to make the antibodies, using a _______ or dead version of the disease. That way, if the real disease comes along, the body knows what to do and can _______ it quickly.

Word Bank: weakened nasty disease kill vaccine antibodies immune

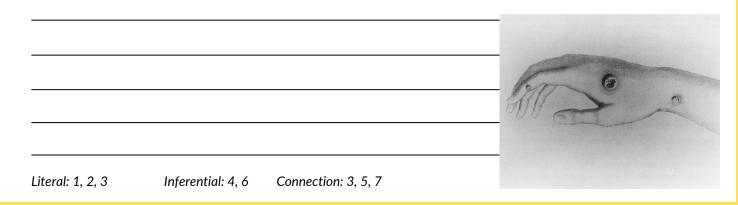
2. What did the inventor of the smallpox vaccine notice? Choose the best answer.

People who worked with cows often got cowpox.

Cowpox was milder than smallpox.

People who got cowpox didn't seem to get smallpox.

3. How did people in Ancient China try to immunise themselves against smallpox? How did that make you feel? (Remember to answer in full sentences.)





4. What are some words you would use to describe how it was for kids with polio who had to spend weeks in an iron lung?



5. Imagine that you are in an iron lung.

A hospital volunteer is coming to read a book to you. (It's the 1950s, so there's no internet, no Netflix, and no video games.) Which book would you choose, and why?



6. The Ancient Greek word *trypano* means puncturing or piercing. The word *phobia* means fear. What do you think *trypanophobia* is?

7. What are some common phobias that people have? List at least three, and draw a picture if you have time!