

Lectura del tema 7:

LEC1-Edward Jenner and his cure for Smallpox

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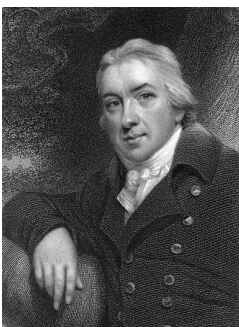
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Objectius:

L'objectiu d'aquesta lectura és que coneguis algunes coses més sobre les malalties infeccioses.

Edward Jenner and his cure for Smallpox

Edward Jenner was born on May 17 1749 in the small village of Berkeley in Gloucestershire. He was an English country doctor who pioneered vaccination.



In 1796 Jenner discovered that inoculation with cowpox provided immunity against smallpox was an immense medical breakthrough and has saved countless lives.

From an early age Jenner was a keen observer of nature and after nine years as a surgeon's apprentice he went to St George's Hospital, London to study anatomy and surgery under the prominent surgeon John Hunter.

After completing his studies, he returned to Berkeley to set up a medical practice where he stayed until his death in 1823.



Edward Jenner studied medicine from an early age and became a skilful and popular doctor.

During this time, smallpox was a common and very serious disease and many people who caught it, died.

A surprising discovery

← This is the smallpox virus. It has been magnified using a microscope.



From talking to other people and from making observations of milkmaids, Jenner realised that milkmaids that had caught cowpox did not seem to catch smallpox.

He got the idea that cowpox immunised people against smallpox.



He found a milkmaid that had caught cowpox and decided to carry out some investigations.

He took some stuff from the pustules on the milkmaid's hand using the blade on his knife.



He infected a young boy (**James Phipps**) with cowpox by scratching his skin with the knife blade that had touched puss from the pustules of the milkmaid.

The boy developed a slight fever from the cowpox but nothing serious. Soon afterwards, Jenner infected the boy with smallpox in the same way as before.

The boy did not develop smallpox.

Jenner discovered that the boy's body had built up resistance against the disease and had become immune to smallpox by being given a mild dose of the less dangerous disease cowpox. Jenner named this process vaccination.

Jenner's work led the way for the development of many more vaccines to protect us from disfiguring and fatal diseases.

Vocabulary

Look at the dictionary or in Internet and write the definition (definition, not translation) of these words (of course, the definitions in English).

Smallpox	
Skilful	
Disease	
Milkmaid	
Cowpox	
Matter	
Pustules	
Blade	
Scratch	
Keen	
Surgery	

Read the text and answer these questions:

- Where and when was Edward Jenner born?
- How old was he when he died?
- What did Jenner discover in 1796?

- Which London Hospital did he work in?
- Where did he live until his death?
- What's the name of the young boy that Jenner inoculated?
- What's the name of the illness against which Jenner protects us?

Ara explica una mica amb les teves paraules el contingut de la lectura (de què va, què explica, què va passar amb el noi, què va descobrir Edward Jenner, etc.)