

Teacher's Guide for ASK: *Getting Better...Staying Well*

February 2007

Teacher's Guide prepared by *Cyndy Hall*

For Further Exploration:

Concertino, dodder plant, strangleweed, Dr. John Snow, Asiatic cholera, miasma, black plague, quarantine, World Health Organization, immune system, microbe, hygiene hypothesis, Ebers Papyrus, salve, antibiotic ointment, herbalist, intravenous, paramedic

Scoops: “Can You Hear Me Now?” (page 2-3)

- (1) Ask small groups of students to brainstorm and create their own technology-musical concertinos. Use technological instruments from your classroom combined with voices, recorders, tapes/CD's, or any other readily available instruments. Video each performance and post on the class web page.

“The Mysterious Case of the Broad Street Pump” (pages 6-13)

- (1) Use library or Internet resources to find out more about Dr. John Snow and the Asiatic Cholera epidemic of 1848.
- (2) What caused the cholera outbreak in 1848's London? Do any of these conditions still exist in your community, the state, or the world?
- (3) How did Dr. John Snow track the source of the 1854 cholera outbreak?
 - a. What clues did he find and how did he eliminate them?
- (4) Use library or Internet resources to find out more about the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.
- (5) A *sari* is a traditional form of clothing in India, but it also serves a second purpose. What is it? Why is this so convenient for many disadvantaged Indians?
- (6) Use library or Internet resources to find out more about the World Health Organization's efforts to eradicate cholera.

“Too Clean?” (pages 14-16)

- (1) Can you be *too* clean? Read the article and then discuss this question. Ask students to write a short paragraph about ways they could use cleaner habits to stay healthy.

“Take Your Medicine” (pages 17-22)

- (1) Use library or Internet resources to find out more about the Ebers papyrus.
- (2) Ask small groups of students to prepare their own 21st century “Ebers papyrus,” listing treatments (“recipes”) for common childhood illnesses.
 - a. Post the results on a wall or bulletin board display.
 - b. Discuss the different ‘recipes’ recommended by each group.

“The Dreaded School Physical” (pages 24-29) and “How to Visit the Doctor’s Office” (Contest on page 30)

- (1) After reading this article, share (and compare) student memories of school physicals and visits to the doctor.
- (2) Ask the school nurse or a local physician to speak to the class about the importance of physical examinations, new techniques, and healthy habits.
 - a. Ask students to write short articles about the visits. Publish these on the class webpage or in the class, school, or community newspaper.

“To the Rescue” (pages _____) and “Ever Wonder...What’s Inside an Ambulance?” (pages _____)

(1) After reading and discussing the articles, ask groups of students to compile a list of questions about paramedics and ambulances. Ask a community paramedic or ambulance attendant to visit class for a short question-and-answer session. Post the answers on the class webpage, or write short articles for the class, school, or community newspaper. Don’t forget to take plenty of pictures!