



**Total Words**

By Achieve Psychology For Learning

# Reading For Information

## Comprehension Activities



■ Curriculum Readers: 800 - 1300 Total Words

# Science and Medicine

# 1. Saving Our Smiles, Saving Our Bites

# A. Reading for Information: Finding Details in Text

Personal Achievement Goal: to show that I can read text to find details.

## Can you find out...?

1. What made people think that worms must be making holes in teeth?
2. How did Pierre Fauchard become an expert on tooth decay?  
What did he think was an important link in understanding tooth decay?  
On what page is this information?
3. How did the invention of microscopes help scientists understand tooth decay?  
On what page is this information?
4. What did Dr McKay observe and what did that make him able to prove?
5. On pages 9 and 10, the text describes ways to repair teeth. Four ways are described. What way of repairing teeth has been used for many years?  
What will dentists soon be able to do?

## B. Recounting Details

### Quick fire:

1. What chemical did Dr McKay prove could help prevent tooth decay?
2. When did toothpaste start to be available for sale in jars?
3. If you had a toothache a hundred years ago, who 'fixed' it?
4. Who invented braces to straighten teeth?
5. When scientists started to publish their research, how was this helpful?
6. What is plaque?

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## **2. Dr John Snow: The Scientific Thinker of Soho**

# A. Reading for Information: Finding Details in Text

Personal Achievement Goal: to show that I can read text to find details.

## Can you find out...?

1. What did Dr Snow want to prove about the cause of cholera?
2. What did Dr Snow notice when he got a map and visited every house in Soho where someone had died?  
On what page is this information?
3. What information did Dr Snow use to convince councillors to close the water pump on Broad Street?  
On what page is this information?
4. What was making the water that was used in the brewery safe?
5. Dr Snow didn't agree with other people. What was the main reason why Dr Snow thought that cholera could not be spread just by breathing smelly air?  
On what page is this information?

## B. Recounting Details

### Quick fire:

1. Dr Snow didn't think cholera was spread in the air. How did he think cholera was spread?
2. What is the best way to make sure cholera doesn't spread?
3. In what year did this terrible outbreak of cholera happen?
4. What is made in a brewery?
5. How old was Dr Snow when he began training to be a doctor?
6. How many people died in this cholera outbreak?

### **3. Penicillin: The Drug That Happened by Chance**



# A. Reading for Information: Finding Details in Text

Personal Achievement Goal: to show that I can read text to find details.

## Can you find out...?

1. What did Fleming notice about the bacteria that had grown in the petri dish while he was on holiday?
2. When Fleming looked at bacteria under a microscope and then added mould to them, what did he notice?  
On what page is this information?
3. What are three ways that bacteria make us sick?  
On what page is this information?
4. Once Fleming had found out what had killed the bacteria in the petri dish, what experiment did he do?  
On what page is this information?
5. What had made Fleming so determined to find a way of stopping infections killing so many people?  
On what page is this information?

## B. Recounting Details

### Quick fire:

1. What do scientists use petri dishes for?
2. What had stopped the bacteria growing in the petri dish?
3. What year did Fleming win the Nobel Prize?
4. What are two pieces of scientific equipment that Fleming used?
5. Where does mould usually grow?
6. What does the word antibiotic mean?

## **4. Malaria: The Challenge for Scientists**

# A. Reading for Information: Finding Details in Text

Personal Achievement Goal: to show that I can read text to find details.

## Can you find out...?

1. How did the invention of microscopes help scientists to understand malaria?
2. Lancisi made an important discovery that helped us understand what malaria did to people. What didn't his discovery show?  
On what page is this information?
3. Ross won the Nobel Prize for his scientific work. What was the important observation that he made?  
On what page is this information?
4. What are the effects of malaria on people?  
On what page is this information?
5. What does being 'naturally immune to the disease' mean?  
On what page is this information?

## B. Recounting Details

### Quick fire:

1. What insect carries malaria?
2. What is a parasite?
3. What is the name of the medicine that is made from cinchona bark and used to treat the symptoms of malaria?
4. What are the two simplest ways of reducing the chances of being bitten by a mosquito?
5. What do scientists hope will happen by using genetically modified mosquitoes?
6. What does dissecting a body mean?

# 5. Edward Jenner: Scientist, Doctor, Observer and Experimenter

# A. Reading for Information: Finding Details in Text

Personal Achievement Goal: to show that I can read text to find details.

## Can you find out...?

1. What was the disease that Edward Jenner was determined to get rid of?
2. What did Jenner notice about people who had cowpox and what experiment did he decide to do?  
On what pages is this information?
3. When doctors or nurses give us vaccinations, what are they injecting into us and what do our bodies do as a result?  
On what page is this information on?
4. Edward Jenner was interested in anatomy. What does that mean?  
On what page is this information?
5. James was injected with smallpox bacteria, but didn't get the disease. What did this prove?

## B. Recounting Details

### Quick fire:

1. If 10 people caught smallpox, how many would be likely to die?
2. In what year was the world declared finally to be free from smallpox?
3. What is an orphan?
4. What does pus contain?
5. What are antibodies?
6. What was the other name that smallpox was called?

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