

Remembering Details

Comprehension Activities



Curriculum Readers: 800 - 1300 Total Words

Science and Medicine

1. Saving Our Smiles, Saving Our Bites

What are three interesting facts that you would like to remember about science and dentists?

1.

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What do you remember?

- 1. In what way did the invention of the microscope help scientists who were studying tooth decay?
- 2. Dr McKay noticed that a group of people living in America had brown teeth but their teeth did not have any decay. What did he figure out was causing the brown teeth and the lack of tooth decay?
- 3. Scientists are experimenting with new ways of repairing holes in teeth. What is one way of treating teeth that uses laser light and chemicals?
- **4.** How did Pierre Fauchard convince people that tooth worms did not cause tooth decay?
- **5.** Dr Miller studied plaque. What did he prove about plaque and tooth decay?

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2. Dr John Snow: The Scientific Thinker of Soho

What are three facts that you would like to remember about Dr Snow's work?

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What do you remember?

- 1. Complete the sentence: Dr Snow's great achievement was in being able to prove that...
- **2.** Arrange the sentences in a sensible order:
 - Councillors close the water pump.
 - Baby Frances is sick with cholera.
 - Dr Snow completes his training to be a doctor.
 - Dr Snow visits every house in which someone has died.
 - The outbreak takes hold dozens of people die each day.
 - At the brewery everybody remains healthy.
 - Dr Snow sees that all the dead people had drunk water from the pump in Broad Street.
- 3. What is cholera?
- **4.** Why was it so important for Dr Snow to act quickly?
- What had stopped the people in the brewery from getting cholera?

Dr John Snow: The Scientific Thinker of Soho

3. Penicillin: The Drug That Happened by Chance

What are three interesting facts that you would like to remember about Fleming and the discovery of penicillin?

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What do you remember?

- 1. List the events in sequence:
 - Fleming injects four mice with deadly bacteria and four mice with deadly bacteria combined with penicillin.
 - Fleming notices a strange pattern in a patch of bacteria in a petri dish.
 - Fleming looks through a microscope and sees that penicillin mould kills bacteria.
 - Fleming is awarded the Nobel Prize.
 - Four mice are alive and four mice are dead.
 - Fleming comes back from holiday.
- 2. What happened by chance in the discovery of penicillin?
- 3. What inspired Fleming to work to find a way to stop infections killing people?
- **4.** When was penicillin first used to save thousands of lives?
- 5. Why was the discovery of penicillin so important to medicine?

4. Malaria: The Challenge for Scientists

What are three interesting facts that you would like to remember about malaria?

1. 2. OTOL VVOCOS By Achieve Psychology For Learning 3.

What do you remember?

- 1. Scientists who studied malaria found out that the disease is passed on to humans by...
- What important discovery did a scientist called Ronald Ross make?
- Why did scientists think that spraying oil on water would control mosquitoes? Why wasn't this a good idea?
- **4.** What is the simplest way of stopping mosquitoes biting people?
- **5.** Tick all the correct sentences:
 - Some people feel like they have the flu when they are infected with malaria.
 - All people who are bitten by mosquitoes get malaria and die.
 - Only female mosquitoes carry malaria.
 - Malaria is caused by parasites that live in blood.
 - Malaria can be treated by coating your body in oil.
 - Malaria can damage people's lungs, livers and brains.

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

What are three interesting facts that you would like to remember about Edward Jenner, vaccinations and smallpox?

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What do you remember?

- **1.** List the events in sequence:
 - a. James is injected with smallpox.
 - b. Jenner studies cuckoos and trains to be a doctor.
 - c. Jenner notices that people who have had cowpox do not get smallpox.
 - d. Jenner is orphaned and goes to live with his brother.
 - e. Jenner injects James with cowpox.
 - f. James does not get smallpox.
- 2. Why was smallpox so feared?
- **3.** How do vaccinations work?
- **4.** What were the two experiments that Jenner carried out on James?
- **5.** How do vaccinations prevent epidemics of deadly diseases?

