



# The Story of Edward Jenner

## Reading Comprehension

Can you fill in the blanks in the story from the words in the box below?

Edward Jenner was born in \_\_\_\_\_, England. As a young boy Jenner's favourite subject was \_\_\_\_\_ and when he grew up he became a \_\_\_\_\_. At the time the people of England were terrified of a deadly disease called \_\_\_\_\_. Symptoms included severe \_\_\_\_\_ and many people died. Jenner noticed that milkmaids who caught the harmless infection \_\_\_\_\_, from their milking cows did not die from smallpox. Jenner took pus from the hand of a \_\_\_\_\_ who had cow pox and infected a boy called \_\_\_\_\_. The boy got infected with cowpox but soon recovered. Jenner then \_\_\_\_\_ James with smallpox. A \_\_\_\_\_ developed but the boy did not develop smallpox. Jenner was delighted that his idea was correct, he went on to \_\_\_\_\_ all the children in his town with cowpox to stop them getting smallpox.

Cowpox	James Phipps	Smallpox
Gloucestershire	Doctor	Milk-maid
Science	Scarring	Infected
Scab	Vaccinate	

### A Historic Hero

Dr Edward Jenner is one of the most important people in scientific history. Without his discovery of vaccinations more than half your class would not be here today.

### Did you know?

By the age of 9, each child may have had at least 12 injections to prevent 13 different dangerous infections.

### Fascinating Fact

Vaccination comes from the Latin word for a cow – vacca

## Understanding

Answer the following questions:

1. What was the name of the doctor who discovered vaccinations?  
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2. What was the name of the deadly disease at the time?  
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3. What was Jenner's idea to stop the deadly disease?  
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4. What happened to James after he was infected with the cowpox?  
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5. What happened to James after he was infected with the smallpox?  
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6. Why was it important for Jenner to test his idea on James before treating lots of children?  
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