

# HISTORY OF VARIOLATION

FOR AGES 10+

## \*FUN FACTS\*

Smallpox was the first disease to be eliminated from Earth through widespread vaccination.

The last smallpox case in the United States was in 1949. Doctors stopped vaccinating for smallpox in the U.S. in 1972.

Doctors and healthcare workers are in the process of trying to eliminate other diseases worldwide, including polio, measles and malaria.

## ACTIVITY #1



Variolation is:

- Deliberately infecting a person with a small amount of a virus to help protect them from the virus
- When one person stays away from other people who have a virus to keep themselves safe

## ACTIVITY #2



**TRUE OR FALSE:** People in China and Africa were using variolation to prevent disease long before people in Europe.

## ACTIVITY #3



Match the disease with the person who discovered a vaccine to cure it.

Smallpox

Jonas Salk

Rabies

Edward Jenner

Polio

Louis Pasteur

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"STUDENT OF THE WEEK!"

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
THE FIRST U.S. PRESIDENT, GEORGE WASHINGTON, CAUGHT SMALLPOX WHEN HE WAS 19. THIS MADE HIM IMMUNE TO THE DISEASE, AND MAY HAVE HELPED SAVE HIS LIFE LATER DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WHEN SMALLPOX THREATENED HIS TROOPS.