

# The Great Plague

## Overview of unit / topic

This topic will look at the Great Plague and the impact it had on the city of London.

## Key Questions

What was the plague and why was it a problem?  
Why did the plague spread so quickly?  
What help was available?  
What were plague pits and why were they necessary?  
How do we know about the London Great Plague victims?  
Did the plague spread outside of London? What happened at Eyam?  
Does the plague still exist today?

## Key Vocabulary

**Plague** – a very infectious disease spread by fleas and rats, causing swelling, fever and usually death  
**Disease** – an illness of people or animals caused by an infection  
**Epidemic** – a disease that is widespread and affects a large number of people  
**Contagious** – spread from one person to another  
**Fever** – a medical condition where you have a high temperature, shivers and a headache  
**Posies** – a small bunch of flowers  
**Remedies** - A medicine or treatment for a disease or injury  
**Fleas** – small jumping insects that feed on the blood of animals and humans  
**Quarantine** – isolation because of a disease  
**Population** – all of the people who live in an area  
**Symptom** – a physical feature indicating a disease or illness

## Key Knowledge and Understanding: What will we be learning about in this unit / topic?

To know about an aspect of British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066.  
To know about the Great Plague and the impact it had on lives.  
To know the symptoms of the plague and the reasons it spread so quickly.  
To know the role of a plague doctor.  
To know what plague pits were and why they were used.  
To know about the village of Eyam and the impact the plague had here  
To know that people blamed the cause of the plague on different things.

## Images

