

The Black Death



The Black Death killed nearly 2.5 million people in Britain between 1347 and 1350...

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- *Write three things you would like*
 - *know about the Black Death!*
-

-
- *What were the symptoms?*
-

•
Egg-sized lumps
(buboes) appeared
under the arms and
in the groin



-

The patient
began to vomit



•

Patches appeared
on the skin,
caused by
internal bleeding



•

The victim
suffered
uncontrollable
muscular spasms.



•

If the patient was very lucky, the buboes would burst, releasing black pus. In this case, he/she MAY survive.



Usually, though, the victim would die

-
- *What cures did people try?*
-

Carry sweet smelling herbs with you!

Tie a shaved chicken or a dried frog to your buboes!

Pray, and whip yourself to show God that you are sorry for your sin!

Soften your buboes with butter, then cut them open!

The evil planets of Mars and Saturn have moved closer together. This has turned the air bad. If we breathe in the bad air we will catch the plague.

• *Why?*

The plague passes from person to person. Plague sores give off a terrible smell. If you breath this in you will catch the plague.

God has sent the plague because he is angry with us. We have spent too much time gambling, fighting and drinking.

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- *What happened to those who lived?*
-

Between one third and one half of the population died. Whole villages were abandoned. But in some ways, life improved!

Because there were fewer people...

- There was more food to go around, so prices fell.
- Landlords had to pay more to attract labourers to work for them. Many peasant were freer, and better off than ever before!

-
- What happened to those who lived?*
-

Just over **half** the population of England died during the plague.



- *The Survivors*

Some villages
were abandoned
as nearly
everyone died in
them.



• *The Survivors*

For people who survived the plague every day life got **better**!

The prices of **food** and other goods **fell** and people's wages went **up** because there was a shortage of workers.

Task 1

Label the body with the different days and their symptoms

Task 2:

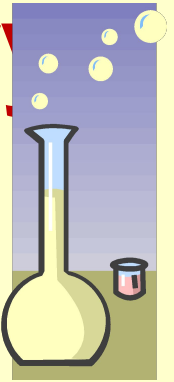
Complete the table on the back of the sheet about reactions to the Plague

Task 3: Design an ad for an apothecary shop! Think about what you know about real medieval cures.

Let's revisit your
questions from the start
of the lesson.

Are you now able to
answer them?

The Olde London Apothecary



Want to avoid the Plague?

We sell herbs to drive out that bad air.



Feeling a bit off colour?

Try one of our amazing plague-trapping toads

