You are now a group of investigators.

You must use the information provided to solve the mystery.

1. Read the information on each victim.
2. Record the key points about them on your record sheet.
3. Plot their deaths on your map.

Note: you are working against the clock. The case must be solved before more people die!

Each investigator will need to propose a theory on what is causing the deaths at the end of the task.
Molly Saunders

Age: 12
Occupation: factory worker
Address: 23 Broad Street

Molly fell ill in the afternoon complaining of stomach pains and suffering from acute water loss and vomiting. She then developed a great thirst. She died that same evening. Her mother was interviewed after her death. She was very upset and said that Molly had always been such a help to her, collecting food from the market and bringing water back from the pump on their street. She could not understand what had happened as Molly had never been sickly before.

Roger Drummond

Age: 31
Occupation: shoe factory worker
Address: 45 Broad Street

Roger was a large man in good health. He had worked at the shoe factory for many years and was considered a good employee as he had never taken a day off work. He fell ill on Sunday evening with cramps, complaining of weakness and then suffering great water loss. He fell into a coma and died on Monday. His next door neighbour was interviewed and it transpired that his wife had been ill with similar symptoms the previous week but had made something of a recovery.

Maria Bunting

Age: 24
Occupation: seamstress
Address: 30 Bridle Street

Maria fell ill with a sickness and fever on Wednesday afternoon. She died after a great thirst at the end of her sickness on Friday. She had been out on Monday afternoon, shopping at the market and picking up supplies from Skinner's Butchers. She had then walked home via Broad Street. She had worked at home as usual on Tuesday and Wednesday before falling ill.
Archibald Skinner

Age: 33
Occupation: butcher
Address: Skinner’s Butchers, corner of New Street

Archie had lived and worked in Skinner’s Butchers on the corner of New Street and Broad Street, opposite the brewery. He had his supplies for the shop delivered by horse and cart twice a week. Archie fell ill on Friday afternoon with a terrible sickness and passed away the following morning. His wife could not account for any reason for his illness. She was very concerned as her son had started to show the same symptoms when she was interviewed. She feared that customers in the Butcher’s shop had brought the disease with them.

Reverend Whitlock

Age: 35
Occupation: vicar
Address: The Vicarage

Reverend Whitlock was a well respected member of the community of fair wealth. He worked at the St Peter’s Parish Church at the end of Old Crompton Street. He became ill on Wednesday with severe water loss and vomiting and died on Thursday. His wife said he had spent Monday morning with Mrs Collins on Broad Street, arranging a funeral for her husband who died of the mystery illness last week. The vicar’s wife had been worried about the illness. She feared that miasma (bad air and smells) in the area would make the reverend sick and encouraged him to cover his face with sweet smelling salts on his visit. Sadly, this had not saved the vicar.

Thomas Wellington

Age: 43
Occupation: brewery worker
Address: 18 Peter Street

Peter was a well-built man. He had worked in the brewery on Broad Street for many years. He came home on Friday having stopped at the public house for a beer on his way home. He complained of chest pains to his wife on his return and collapsed dead later in the evening.
Peter Godwin

Age: 18
Occupation: chimney sweep
Address: 47 Marshall Street

Peter lived in a house overlooking Broad Street. He fell ill on Thursday with terrible muscle cramps which kept him from his work. He then developed a sickness and complained of a great thirst before dying in the night. He had often been ill with his lungs as a child. He is the third member of the Godwin family to contract the strange illness within the last few weeks. His younger sister also died from the illness.

Victoria Price

Age: 50
Occupation: baker
Address: 25 Little Putney Street

Victoria was an older woman in fair health. She lived with her husband, son and daughter-in-law on Little Putney Street. She worked at the Bakers on Carnaby Street. She fell ill on Saturday and died after a sickness with great fluid loss on Sunday. Before she died her skin had sagged and her face had looked hollow and grey.

Rebecca Palmer

Age: 19
Occupation: flower seller
Address: 95 Broad Street

Becky worked around the area as a flower seller and at the market stalls on Mondays. Her mother reported her death and said she had fallen ill a couple of days before her passing. She had been in great pain, particularly in her muscles and had spent hours vomiting and in need of the privy. She had eventually collapsed in her bed and her skin had looked grey and sallow before her death.
**Investigator's record sheet**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
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The mystery solved: King Cholera

In 1832 cholera was brought to Britain by soldiers returning from India. It spread in the water supply killing more than six thousand people in London alone. Cholera killed in a matter of hours. Victims developed stomach pains and vomiting, followed by severe diarrhoea. A cholera patient could lose a litre of fluid every hour.

It wasn’t until 1854 that John Snow made the connection between cholera and water using the process you have tried today. He recommended the handle be removed from the Broad Street Pump, where a memorial to his work still stands today.
Teaching Notes

This activity is intended to simulate the process which John Snow used to identify the cause of cholera in 1854. Students work as 'investigators' noting key case information about the victims of the disease and plotting the deaths on an historic map. They generate theories about what was causing the outbreak. A supporting PowerPoint is included for subscribed members which includes the information and tasks above for easy display and feedback.

You will need to download and print copies of a detailed historic map of the area which can be found at [http://www.ph.ucla.edu/EPI/snow/snowmap1.pdf](http://www.ph.ucla.edu/EPI/snow/snowmap1.pdf). It may be beneficial to enlarge this to A3 for the sake of your student's eye sight!

A suggested lesson structure:

**Starter**
As initial stimulus read through the mock newspaper article detailing the events of the outbreak.

**Main**
Students should work in pairs or threes. Each small group needs to be given a map, investigator record sheet and a character card. Students record key information about the victim and plot their location on the map. Ask them to rotate the character cards every 2-3 minutes. They should aim to build a theory about the cause of the disease and be ready to share this with the class.

**Feedback**
As a class, put together a brainstorm of possible explanations and supporting evidence from the cards. Allow each pair/three to contribute.

You can then reveal how close they came to the truth and explain that the method they have followed mimics that of John Snow.

**Plenary**
Using the cartoon 'Death's Dispensary' available at:


Students conduct some source analysis to identify the message and purpose of the cartoon.