

## Lesson 2 – Meet the Heroes

### GLOSSARY

**Cowpox**

A virus in the same family as smallpox but causing milder symptoms. Used by Jenner for the first vaccination.

**Disease**

A condition resulting in the disruption of an organism's normal function and typically causing symptoms of illness.

**Eradication**

The complete removal or elimination of something.

**Hypothesis**

An educated guess based on an observation that might explain a phenomenon; experimentation is designed to prove whether this informed guess is accurate or not.

**Infection**

A condition caused when a germ, such as a virus or bacteria, invades an organism and reproduces; may or may not cause illness.

**Inoculation**

Introduction of a foreign agent into an organism, usually with the intent of protecting from infectious disease, as in vaccination.

**Smallpox**

A virus in the same family as cowpox, but producing severe symptoms; about 3 of every 10 people (30%) died from their infections.

**Vaccination**

A method of protecting an individual from an infectious disease by introducing a weakened, dead or partial version of the virus or bacteria that causes the disease.

**Variolation**

Inoculation of a healthy person with dried material from the scabs of another person who was infected with smallpox to protect the healthy person from getting smallpox. This technique carried significant risk of contracting the disease and was later replaced with vaccination.

**Virus**

A type of germ or microorganism that contains either DNA or RNA and makes copies of itself by taking over host cells so the cell produces more virions.