

Poison Pump (Cholera Outbreak)

Adapted from Project WET "Poison Pump," 2011

A danger has swept through the streets of London, and hundreds are sick! Could the accomplice to this terrible crime be something that is used every day?

Grades: Middle-High School

Time: 45 minutes

Students will apply investigative methods epidemiologists use to trace the source of contagious diseases.

Materials:

- Broad Street area map
- Victim cards
- Colored marking pens

Procedure:

1. Follow along with PowerPoint to introduce the topic to students.
2. Pass out the **victim cards** and **Broad Street area map**. Tell the students to mark where each victim card took place on their map and highlight any similarities between them. Once they've gone through the cards, the students will determine the source of cholera.
3. Once the students have completed, go through the clue cards together and have them revise their conclusions.
4. *The cholera originated from the Broad Street pump handle.*
5. Watch the video on PowerPoint (run time 5:39).
6. Follow along with the PowerPoint to finish discussing cholera and the important work we do at Hallsdale-Powell Utility District.