

Lesson ideas for geography teachers to share: Smithsonian

Go to

The Smithsonian Institution – National Museum of Natural History
<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-tour/current-exhibits>

Scroll down to the thirteenth subtitle, Outbreak: Epidemics in a connected world and answer the following questions.

1. Start with Outbreak 1. The first word you will see in the exhibit 'Nipah' – look up the symptoms, the animal it circulates in and the last major outbreak of this viral infection.
2. Click on the right arrow on the far right of the toolbar and you will go through to Outbreak 2. What does 'One Health' mean?
3. Click the right arrow, through to Outbreak 3, The International Spread of Disease. Zoom into the SARS information board. What year did SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) strike and where did it originate?
4. Right click through to Outbreak 4. This section is on Responding to Outbreaks. Ebola struck West Africa in 2014, what is the advisory quote on the wall for future pandemics?
5. Skip through the next section to Outbreak and zoom in on the Solution: Eradicating Smallpox information board. Smallpox is the only human infectious disease that has been completely eradicated, when was the last known case – and in which country?
6. How many people died from smallpox in the twentieth century?
7. In Outbreak 7 what does the quote by Yvette Raphael say and why is this important?
8. There are 9 posters on the wall in Outbreak 8; Do Humans Cause Epidemics? The 9 posters each show a different activity which has fuelled the spread of pandemics over the past 100 years, what are they?

Suggested further work

<https://www.directionsmag.com/article/9706>

Ever wondered how GIS is used in day-to-day life? It has very quickly become essential for digital museum tours in 2020. Take a look at this American article to appreciate the real life application of learning about spatial technology in geography.