

Ancient Ways in Ancient Days

Scenario:

The Ancient Medical Museum is a new museum still in the planning stages. The concept behind the museum is to highlight the medical practices of ancient civilizations and show their connections to modern medical practices. The museum will be arranged so that each room, 40 by 40 feet, is dedicated to an ancient civilization. They are contracting with private firms to take a room and make it both historically accurate and interesting for patrons of all ages. The Museum Director has asked your firm to make a multimedia presentation to the governing board showing what you would include in a room of the museum.

Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):

1. Describe some of the medical practices of the culture.
2. Are any of these practices still in use today?
3. Does modern science support any of these practices?
4. Why are some of the practices no longer used in modern medicine?
5. Why do you think this was type of procedure was used?
6. What do you think influenced the medicine of a given time period?
7. What was the general health of the civilization?
8. What archeological evidence is there to support our ideas about the medical practices of this civilization?
9. Was there a connection between their religious beliefs and their medical practices?
10. Who were the medical experts and how did they fit into their culture?
11. What kind of displays will you setup that make the exhibit more interesting?
12. What artifacts are available to place in your displays?

Possible Sources

Newspapers, historians, medical experts, teachers, videos, CD's, encyclopedias, history textbooks and Internet websites.

Email or interview experts with questions about the topic.

Internet links for additional resources are on page 2 of this scenario.

Bibliography

Be sure to have a printed bibliography to hand to the judges before you begin your presentation. You are encouraged to cite all of your sources including graphics. A simple web tool to organize your bibliography can be found at <http://citationmachine.net/>.

2009 CyberQuest 6th Grade Resources

Wikipedia: History of Medicine

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_medicine

All human societies have medical beliefs that provide explanations for birth, death, and disease. Throughout history, illness has been attributed to witchcraft, demons, adverse astral influence, or the will of the gods. These ideas still retain some power, with faith healing and shrines still used in some places, although the rise of scientific medicine over the past millennium has altered or replaced many of the old beliefs...

History of Alternative Medicine

<http://ezinearticles.com/?History-of-Alternative-Medicine&id=275778>

History has it that alternative medicine goes back 5000 years to Chinese traditional medicine, Indian (Ayurvedic medicine) and similar healing traditions in many cultures...

Folk Remedies

http://www.health911.com/remedies/rem_indx.htm

Has links to specific folk medicine remedies both modern and old

Antiqua Medicina

<http://www.hsl.virginia.edu/historical/artifacts/antiqua/>

Has multiple links to significant historical times of medicine

ThinkQuest: Ancient Medicine

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C004203/science/science04.htm>

Article on some of the medical practices from ancient cultures