

KID CURATOR & THE DRS KIT

This video is part of a series, created as a collaboration between Michael Mills and the History Trust of South Australia. The Kid Curator series explores local South Australian history through historical objects. The videos provide a curatorial description of the object and period in history blended with narrative-based re-enactments. Each video focuses on an object from the History Trust of South Australia's State History Collection and provides differing point of view on the history of the object in question. View the video and use the dedicated education resource for a cross curricular exploration of the history of South Australia.

The Drs Kit

This video showcases a medical kit used by Dr Everard during his voyage on the *Africaine* in 1836. The kit is now on display in the South Australia Maritime Museum. It contains all sorts of medical instruments common to that period of medicine – many of which were used for surgical medical procedures. The video considers the perspectives of Mary Thomas, a woman travelling on the *Africaine* with her family, and the perspective of Dr Everard himself.



Curriculum Map

Year 4

HPE – investigate and apply behaviours that contribute to their own and others' health, safety, relationships and wellbeing (AC9HP4P10) interpret the nature and intention of health information and messages, and reflect on how they influence personal decisions and behaviours (AC9HP4P09)

Science as a Human Endeavour – examine how people use data to develop scientific explanations (AC9S4H01) consider how people use scientific explanations to meet a need or solve a problem (AC9S4H02)

Year 5

HPE – investigate different sources and types of health information and how these apply to their own and others' health choices (AC9HP6P09) analyse how behaviours influence the health, safety, relationships and wellbeing of individuals and communities (AC9HP6P10)

Science as a Human Endeavour – investigate how scientific knowledge is used by individuals and communities to identify problems, consider responses and make decisions (AC9S5H02)

Year 6

HPE – investigate different sources and types of health information and how these apply to their own and others' health choices (AC9HP6P09) analyse how behaviours influence the health, safety, relationships and wellbeing of individuals and communities (AC9HP6P10)

Science as a Human Endeavour – investigate how scientific knowledge is used by individuals and communities to identify problems, consider responses and make decisions (AC9S6H02)

Focus Questions

Before watching:

1. Do you think there are ever times when doctors refuse to see patients? Why would they do that?
2. What do you know about how doctors would treat illnesses in the past?
3. Quarantine has happened before – what do you know about the history of quarantine in South Australia?

After watching:

1. Why was the doctor not able to treat William?
2. How do you think the Doctor felt about not being able to treat a patient?
3. Do you think being medically advanced has helped take away people's fear of getting sick? Why/why not?
4. Do you think Mary Thomas accurately described the actions of the doctor? Why/why not?

Class Activities

Name the feeling – Pair and Share

For each of the following parts of the story, consider the following:
Name the feeling for the two main characters.

1. What's a helpful way to deal with it?
2. What's a harmful way to deal with it?

Situations

- When Mary Thomas snuck her sick children on board, pretending they were healthy.
- When the doctor refused to see William.
- When the other ship members realised there was an ill person on board.
- When the doctor told Mary that William needed “blister” medicine but didn't make it himself.

Read and Write

Explore Mary Thomas' journal entries for her time on board the *Africaine* here: [Mary Thomas - Bound for South Australia \(history.sa.gov.au\)](http://Mary Thomas - Bound for South Australia (history.sa.gov.au))

Imagine that you are on board a ship, travelling to a new land. Write a series of journal entries of your own, telling the story. Be ready to share with the class.



Where to Next?

Explore the themes of medicine, emotions and perspectives further by reading and responding to one of the books on this list:

- *Pandemic* – Jackie French
- *Germs* – Lorna Hendyr
- *Do not Lick this Book* – Idan Ben-Barak and Julien Frost
- *Sick As: bloody moments in the history of medicine* – Gael Jennings