# **Pathfinders - Medicine Woman**





#### **Overview**

"Medicine Woman" is a history-based theme, with a focus on the four competencies of courage, commitment, creativity and community. It includes the subjects of PSHE, drama, English and geography. The story of Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman to receive a medical degree and become a doctor in 1849, is both inspiring and challenging.

### Where?

# Where did Elizabeth Blackwell live?

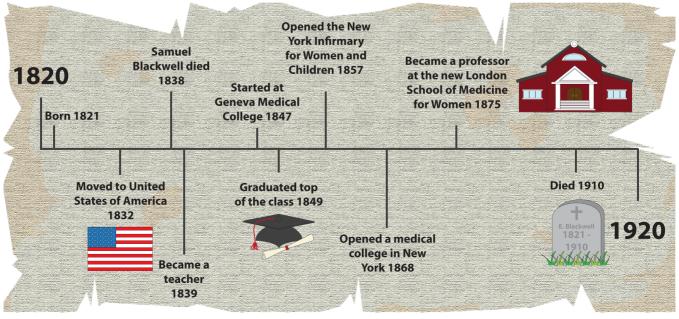
- Elizabeth was born and lived in Bristol, England until she was 11 years old.
- Then she moved with her family to America, where she stayed until after she qualified to be a doctor.
- She then travelled mainly between America and England as she practised medicine.



### Who?

#### Who was Elizabeth Blackwell?

• Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman to receive a medical degree in 1849 and work as a doctor. Despite widespread opposition, she decided to attend medical college and graduated top of her class. She wrote many books and papers, opened her own clinics and hospitals and pioneered hygiene and preventative methods to stop the spread of disease and infection. She bravely led the way, enabling many other women to go on and become doctors.

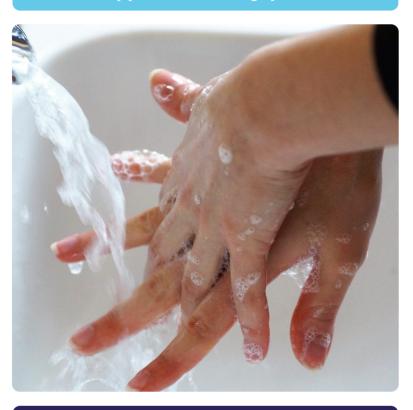


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#### How to...

### ...wash your hands properly

- Wet your hands with water, preferably hot water.
- Apply enough soap to cover your hands.
- Rub your hands together, including rubbing the backs, palms and clean in between your fingers and thumbs.
- Rinse and dry your hands thoroughly.



## **Knowledge and Understanding**

- To know and be able to retell the life story of Elizabeth Blackwell
- To know what the main achievements of Elizabeth Blackwell were
- To understand the contribution Elizabeth Blackwell made to equal rights for women
- To understand the way in which the past impacts on the present
- To understand the importance of courage and commitment







**Degree:** a title given to a student by a college, university, or professional school upon completion of a program of study

Century: a period of 100 years

**Doctor**: a person who is qualified to give medical treatment

**Emigrate:** to leave a country to go and live somewhere else

Decade: a period of 10 years

**Lecture:** a talk given to an audience who are there to learn

**Hygiene:** ways of behaving that lead to good health

Protest: to strongly object

**Rejection:** when someone is refused entry

**Discrimination:** treating some people better than others without any fair or proper reason

**Pioneer:** a person that explores new areas of thought or activity

**Year:** a period of 365 days (366 in a leap year)

**Courage:** strength of mind to carry on in spite of danger or difficulty

**Commitment:** showing dedication to a cause or activity

Past: having already happened

Present: happening now