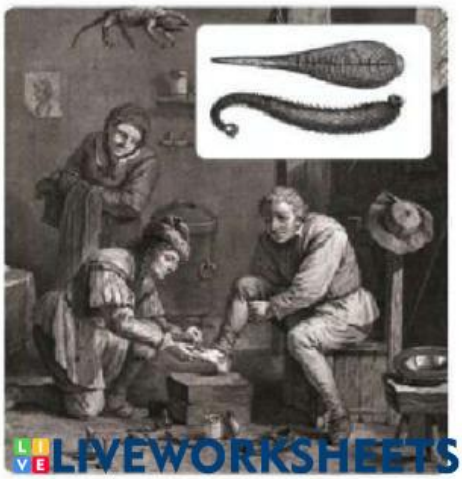
Hirudotherapy

Leeches have been used in medicine for thousands of years, from Ancient Egypt to India and medieval Europe.

Doctors used to think these small creatures could take away poisons from the blood.

They were wrong about this, although leeches are surprisingly effective in other forms of treatment today



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Old forms of medicine

- Ancient Egyptians used _____ in the same way that cream is used now to stop people _____
- Leeches were first _____
- Until the 20th century, leeches were so commonly used in Europe that _____
- Medieval doctors thought that leeches helped _____

Modern medicine

- Leeches can help in cases when _____, for example in screen grafts
- One study showed a _____ in using leeches
- Leeches officially became _____ in the US in 2004

LIVEWORKSHEETS