

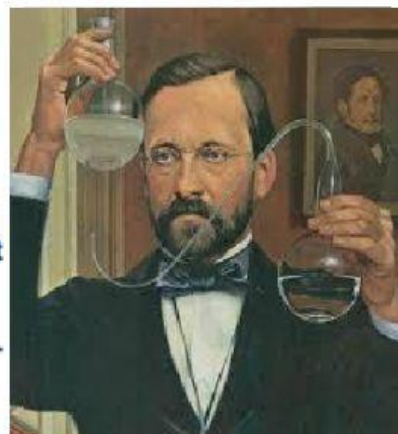
Name _____ Date _____ List #: ____ - ____

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Louis Pasteur

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Louis Pasteur was born in 1822, in France in the ancient town of Dole, to a tanner Jean Joseph Pasteur and his wife Jeanne. His father had been a soldier in Napoleon's army. They sent Louis to a school in Arbois when he was six, he enjoyed drawing portraits of his family. After he graduated he went to the Royal College in Besancon where he earned his B.A. and then a Bachelor of Science degree, two years later at the age of twenty. In 1847 he received a doctorate degree and became a professor at age twenty-six. He married Marie Laurent and they had five children. His research led to the process of pasteurization of milk to kill viruses and harmful bacteria. He named the new science bacteriology and suggested a new theory, The Germ Theory of Disease. He believed that diseases were caused by germs attacking the body from the outside.



The raising of silkworms was a large industry in France at that time, but in 1849 the worms were hit with a disease and began to die. In 1865 at the request of the government Pasteur performed experiments and at the end of this arduous task he suffered a stroke and paralysis. After two years he began to recover the use of his body. His next task was to try and find the cause of disease in the body. He developed a vaccine for a disease in chickens, fowl cholera, and a disease in animals, splenic fever; Pasteur devoted the rest of his life developing vaccines for the people against such diseases as cholera, diphtheria, tuberculosis and smallpox. As early as 1774 a vaccine for smallpox had been discovered. He is especially remembered for the case in which he vaccinated a nine-year-old boy, Joseph Meister, who had been bitten by a dog that had rabies. The boy recovered after receiving the vaccine from Pasteur. The Pasteur Institute was founded in 1888 in Paris. When he died he was buried there in a fine tomb.

Answer each question.

1. Tell the early life of Louis Pasteur.

2. What did he do after his graduation?

3. Where did Louis Pasteur's research lead him to?

4. Which vaccine did he develop for the animals?

5. How many vaccines did he develop for the people?