

Teacher Guide for Student Worksheet 10-Learning through “Discovery Trunks”

Note: The content of this worksheet will be dependent upon the Discovery Trunk objects each group chose for its presentation. However, below is a quick sketch of some of the main points in the student handouts given at each station.

As each group shares their “Discovery Trunk,” write down the important facts you learn about the Lazaretto.

Station: Rules and Regulations

Material Object or student artifact: *Yellow Quarantine Flag, the key to the Lazaretto gate, photo of the Board of Health, etc.*

- The Board of Health of Philadelphia made the general rules and regulations governing the Lazaretto and its operation. (May 31, 1797 resolution, Quarantine Policy of 1803)
- Procedure vessels used to get inspected (types of flags including the yellow-quarantine flag)/which vessels had to be inspected and why. Punishment of \$500 and imprisonment if rules are not followed. (\$500 in 1803 equals the value of \$7,056.65 in 2009)
- Rules at Lazaretto grounds concerning isolation (needing written permission to approach the quarantine gate, using certain entrances to keep the germs of sick patients in the hospital wings from spreading to the central pavilion.)

Station: Daily Routine of Doctor

Material Object or student artifact: *photograph of doctor or photograph of the tugboat “Visitor”*

- The location of his residence (on the Lazaretto grounds)
- The length of his day (sunrise to sunset). Lazaretto physician Dr. Herbst describes half a dozen vessels examined before breakfast.
- Examples of the large number of vessels inspected, detained, and the statistics of sick patients for which he cared.
- Riding the tugboat at early dawn and inquiring about the health of passengers
- The procedure of a vessel if it arrives at the Lazaretto after sunset

Station: Waiting

Material Object or student artifact: *Letters or diaries those in waiting wrote or notes from the doctor while vessels were in quarantine*

- The wait to get to the Lazaretto after traveling the Atlantic Ocean
- The wait even for healthy traders (typically the wait for healthy passengers was on their vessel)
- The doctor had to permission cargo, vessels, crew, and passengers or they could not leave the Lazaretto

Station: Inspection and Disinfection

Material Object or student artifact: *List of inspection questions from the Board of Health, Steam-powered disinfectant and baggage or clothing or mail that says “STERILIZED”*

- Inspection: what was the nature of the questions asked by the Lazaretto Physician to the Master or Commander of the ship under oath? (A paraphrasing of questions: From

where did the vessel come? Had it been in contact with another vessel? How many people boarded the vessel and were they accounted for? Did anyone die and from what cause? What is the state of everyone's health now? etc.)

- Buildings used to help inspect and disinfect (The Dead-House, The Government Warehouse)
- The procedure of disinfection – either by person (steam) or mail (alcohol/heat)
- The controversy of disinfection ruining personal items

Station: Fever!

Material Object or student artifact: burial ground or headstone, kitchen utensils to cook food for those in the hospital, Dr. Ulrich's "Letter to the Editor"

- One diseased ship arrives that already lost two people to yellow fever
- Chaos at the Lazaretto when the doctor and nurses die!
- Heroism of one citizen who stayed at the hospital even though she had family outside