Luka and Peter
play together every day.



When they get tired of playing, Luka tells Peter what he learned in the school that day.





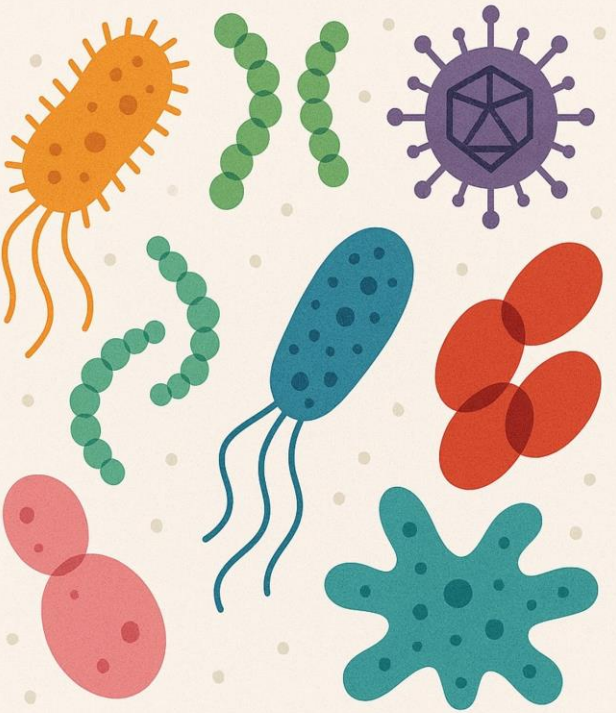
Today, Luka learned about vaccines at school. Since Peter was afraid of vaccines, Luka wanted to explain how heipful and important they are.



Vaccine is something that can protect you agaiinst disease caused by microbes.



Peter asks Luka:
What is a microbe?



Microbes are little creatures that cannot be seen with the naked eyes. They are all around us. Only a small portion of them can cause a disease.

Peter didn’t even like hearing the word “vaccine.” Curious and a little nervous, he asked Luka where the name even came from.

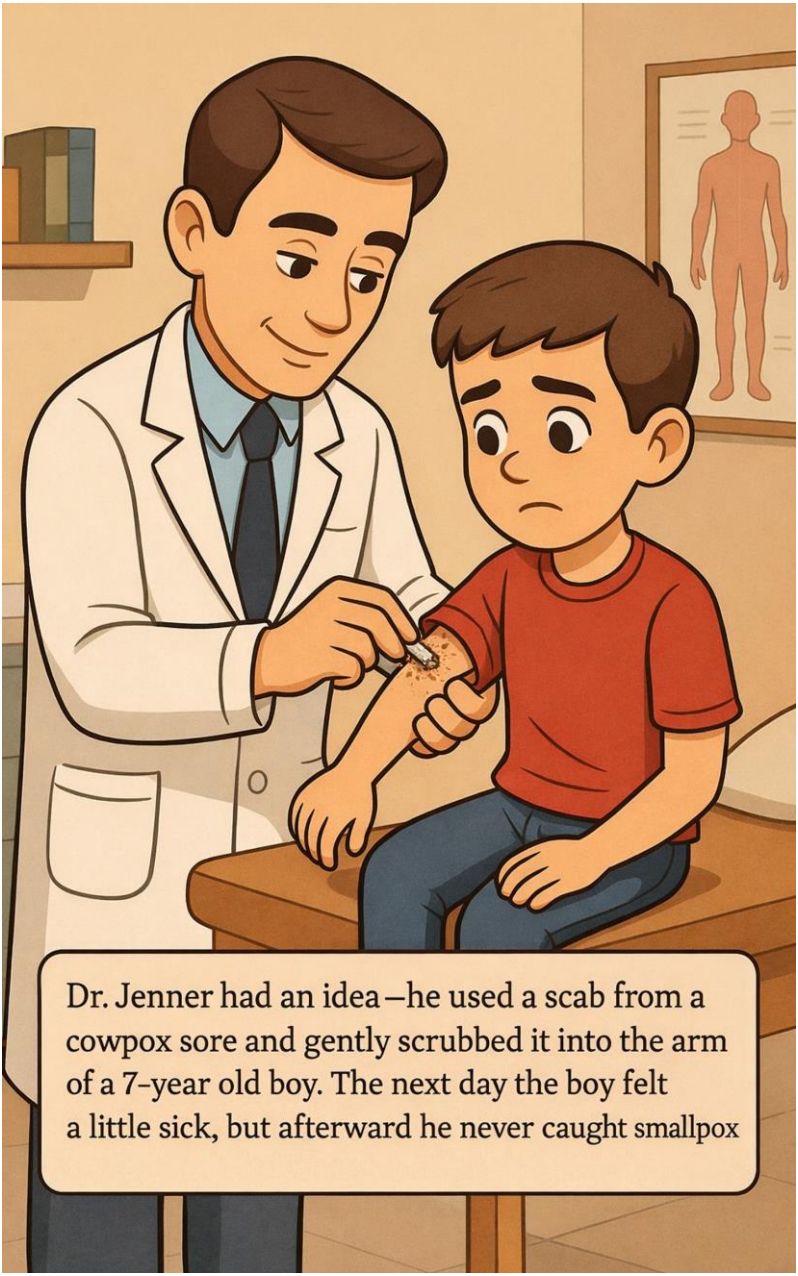


And Peter told him a story. Two hundred years ago there was no cure for many deadly diseases, and, one of them was smallpox.



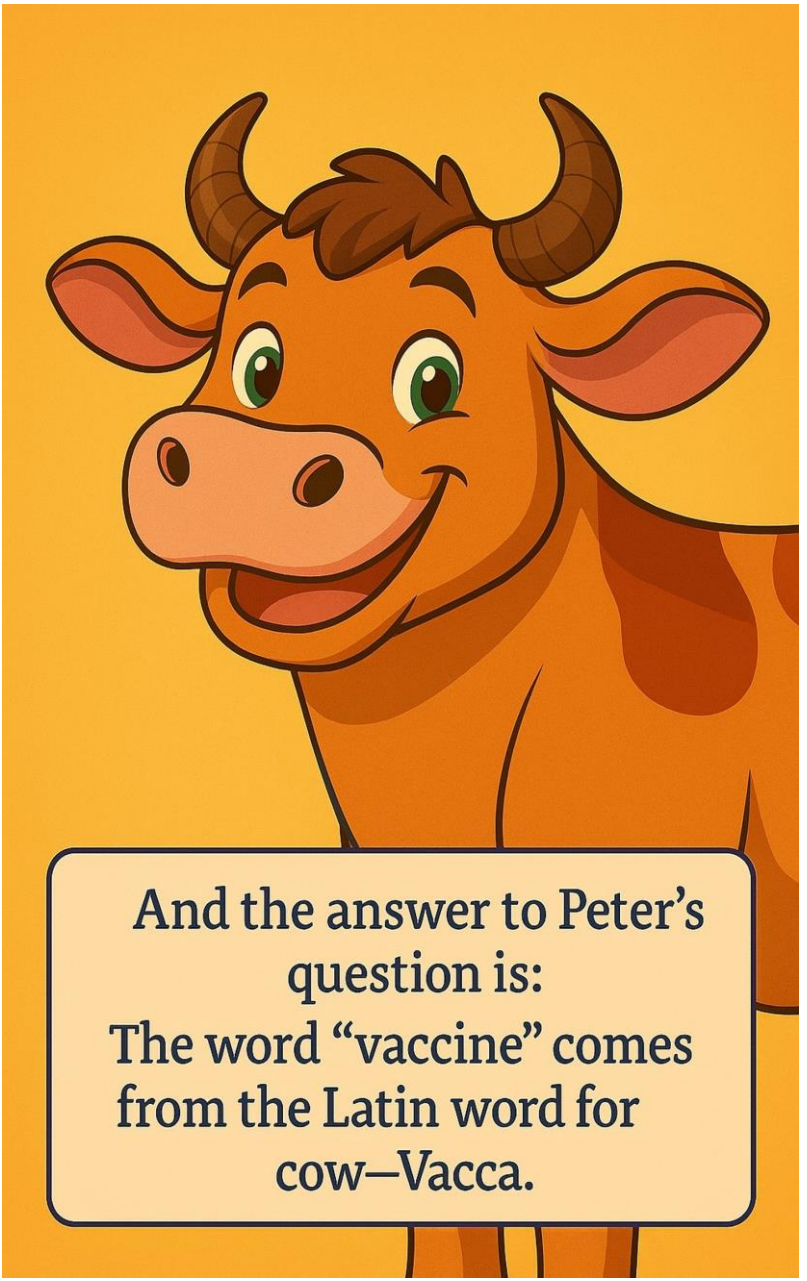
Dr Edward Jenner was a physician who developed the first vaccine. He talked to a milkmaid and she told him that she cannot get smallpox because she already had cowpox, a disease of cows.

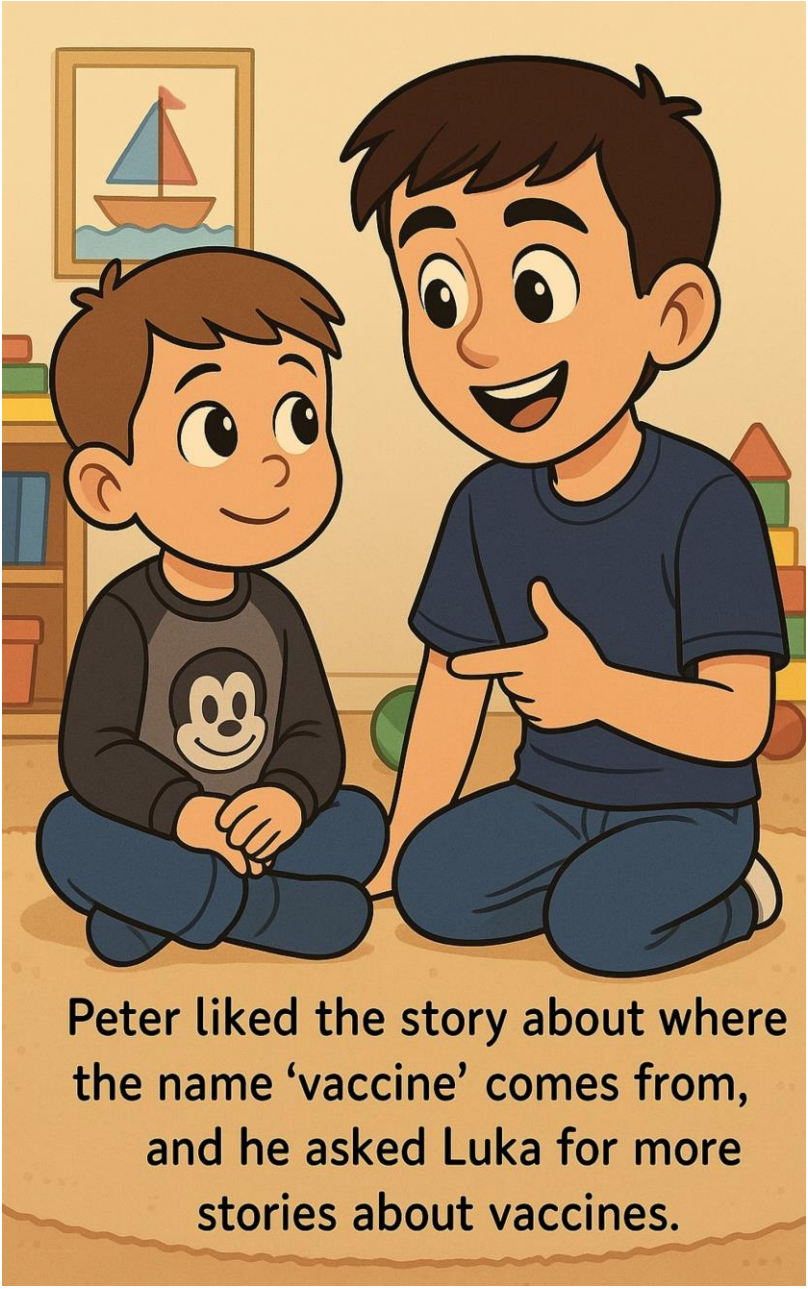



Dr. Jenner had an idea—he used a scab from a cowpox sore and gently scrubbed it into the arm of a 7-year old boy. The next day the boy felt a little sick, but afterward he never caught smallpox

Once you get a vaccine, your body will remember it and help keep you safe from that sickness in the future.




And the answer to Peter's question is:
The word "vaccine" comes from the Latin word for cow—Vacca.


Peter liked the story about where the name ‘vaccine’ comes from, and he asked Luka for more stories about vaccines.


Luka likes to read and he wanted
to learn more about vaccines.

Luka found the story to tell to Peter about how the rabies vaccine was introduced. Rabies is a deadly disease transmitted to humans through the bite of infected dogs.



Remember, other animals
can transmit rabies as well.



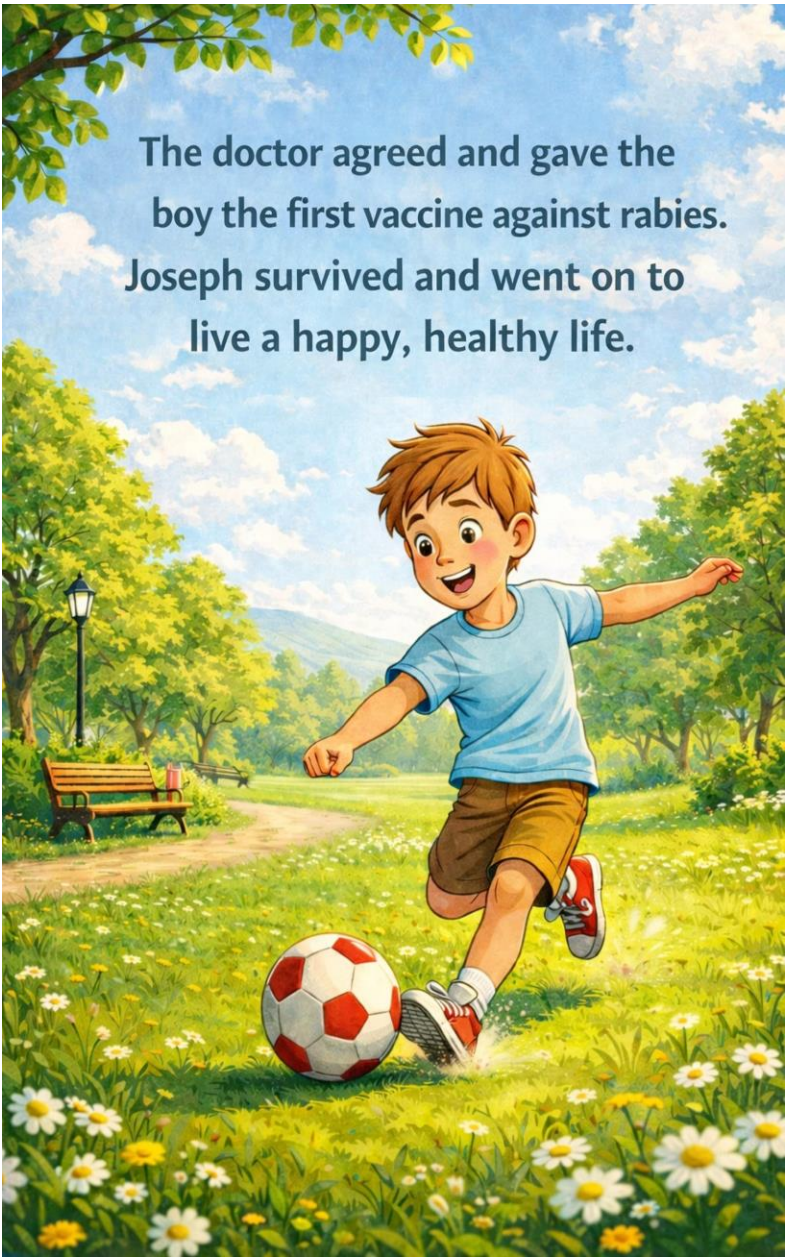


Here is the story about the rabies vaccine.

A boy by the name Joseph Meister was bitten by rabid dog. Rabies at that time was incurable disease.

Joseph's mom was begging the doctor Luis Pasteur to give her boy an experimental vaccine that he was in the process of developing.




The doctor agreed and gave the boy the first vaccine against rabies. Joseph survived and went on to live a happy, healthy life.


INSTITUT PASTEUR
JOSEPH
MEISTER
Next time when you go to Paris, you can visit the statue of Joseph Meister in front of Pasteur Institute.



Luka told Peter another story about the vaccine. This story is about a boy named Mark. Mark was a very good swimmer.



Unfortunately, one day he became sick and was unable to stand on his feet. He had contracted a disease called polio

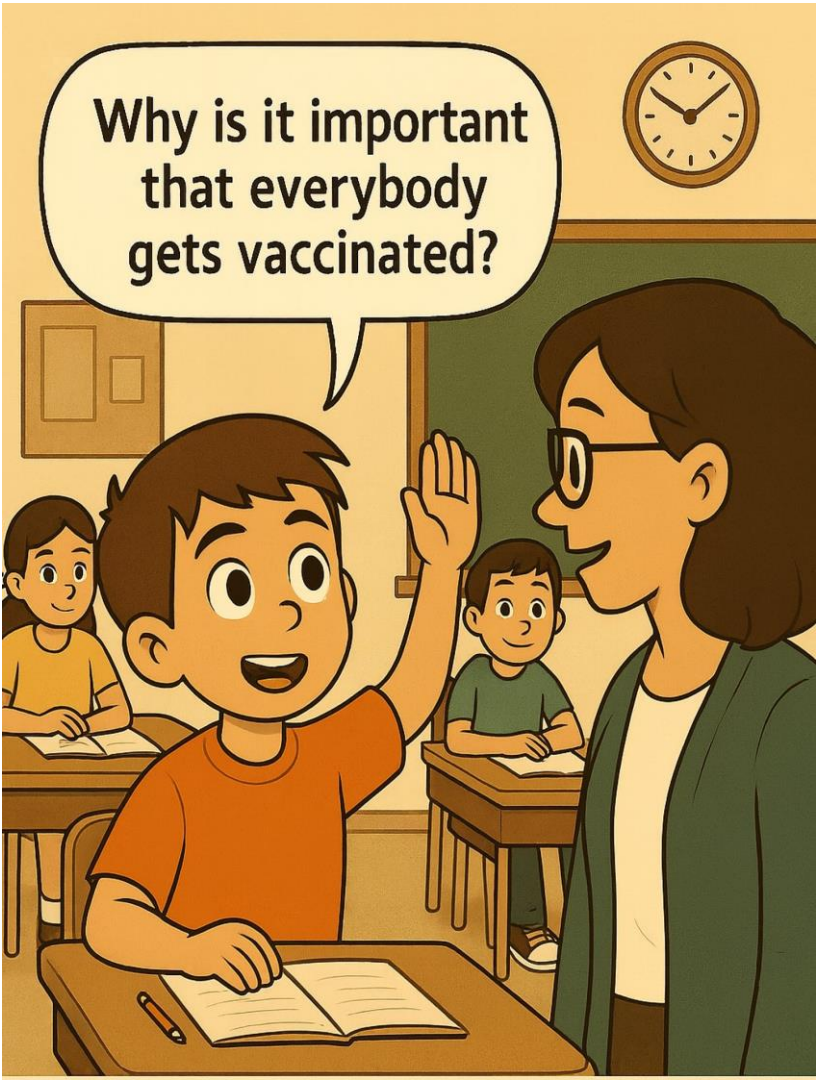


Mark asked his parents:
Why didn't you get me vaccinated?
Why do I have to spend the rest of my life in a wheelchair?


I feel sorry for Mark.
Yes, his parents made a mistake not vaccinating him.



Vaccination protects us against diseases and let us live happy lives.



Luka wants to learn more
about the importance of vaccination.



This is called "herd immunity."
When most of kids are vaccinated,
then even few of unvaccinated
ones will be protected.


DOCTOR
After hearing all the stories about the benefits of vaccines, Peter goes for his next shot without any fear.

What is a vaccine?

A A type of candy

B A medicine that helps your body learn to fight germs

C A kind of germ

D A bandage



Miroslav Gantar, PhD

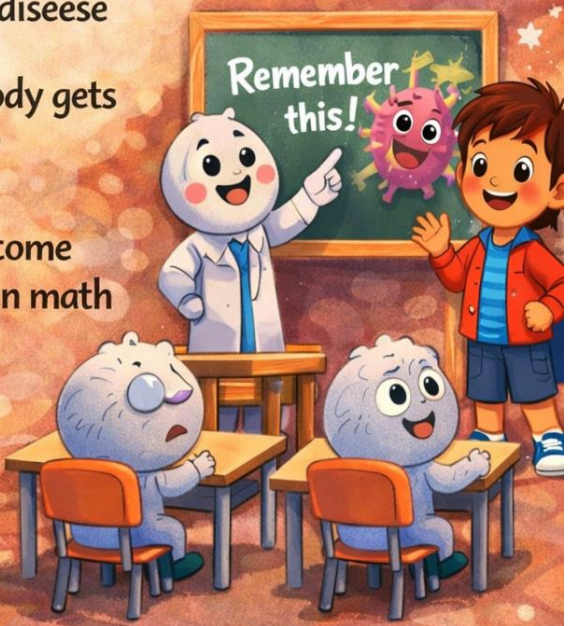
What happens in your body after you get a vaccine?

A Your body forgets about germs

B Your body learns how to recognize and fight a diseese

C Your body gets weaker

D You become better in math



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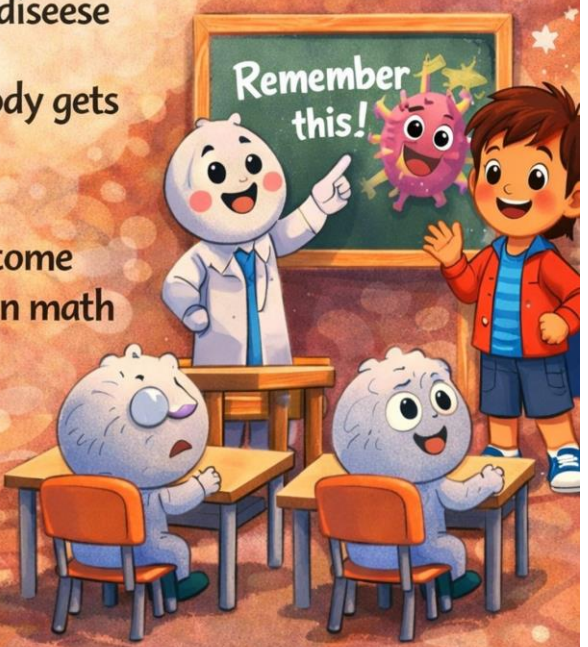

Miroslav Gantar; PhD

Are all microbes bad for us?

A Yes, all microbes are dangerous

B No, some microbes help keep us healthy

C Microbes only live in hospitals

D Microbes only live on dirty things

