

Exploding Buboes!

The Black Death killed nearly a third of people in Europe. The most feared symptom of this disease were **buboes** (swellings in the lymph nodes), which emerged in the sweatiest places of the body, such as the armpits and groin.

These buboes would grow to the size of a tennis ball and would become black and fill with infected pus and blood. Some people believed that **popping** these buboes would improve chances of survival, as the poisons and toxins would be released from the body. They would naturally pop as part of the disease.



Use your knowledge and observations during the demonstration to complete the boxes below.

What can I see?

Black and crusty on top

What would it have been like in real life?

Looked like a bruise and probably sore

Draw your own bubo and label it!

What words would you use to describe a bubo?

Exploding Buboes! Answer Sheet

The Black Death killed nearly a third of people in Europe. The most feared symptom of this disease were **buboes** (swellings in the lymph nodes), which emerged in the sweatiest places of the body, such as the armpits and groin.

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What can I see?

Black and crusty on top

Yellow custard

Red

Size of a fist/ round shape

Popping/full of liquid

Big

What would it have been like in real life?

Looked like a bruise and probably sore

Pus filled/Infection – smelly?

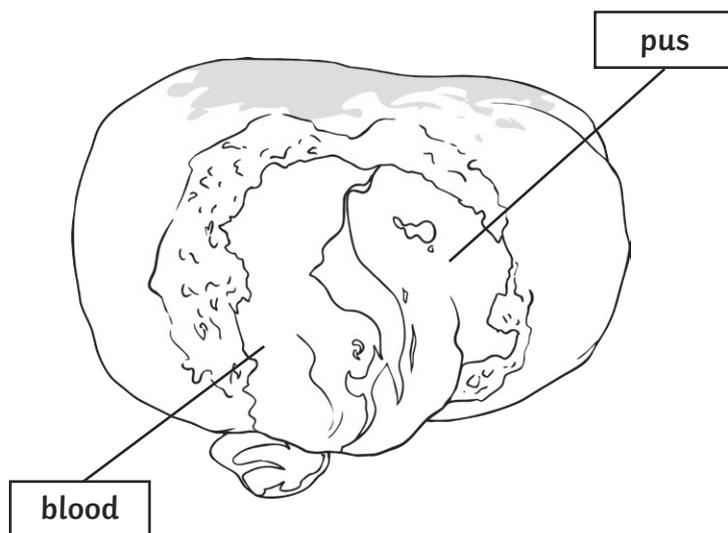
Blood – could have gotten infected

Uncomfortable to walk, sit, do anything

Sickening!

Frightening if it would appear on your body

Draw your own bubo and label it!



What words would you use to describe a bubo?

Round, huge pimple, pus filled, pox like, big, boil, oozy, swollen, bursting, infectious, popping