



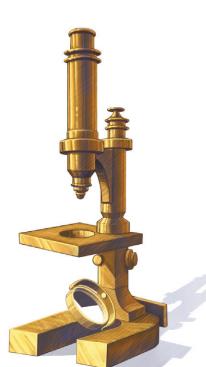
"What should I be when I grow up?" Louis Pasteur (loo-EE past-OOR) wondered as he dreamed about his future. "There are so many things I like to do, and so many wonderful things to learn.

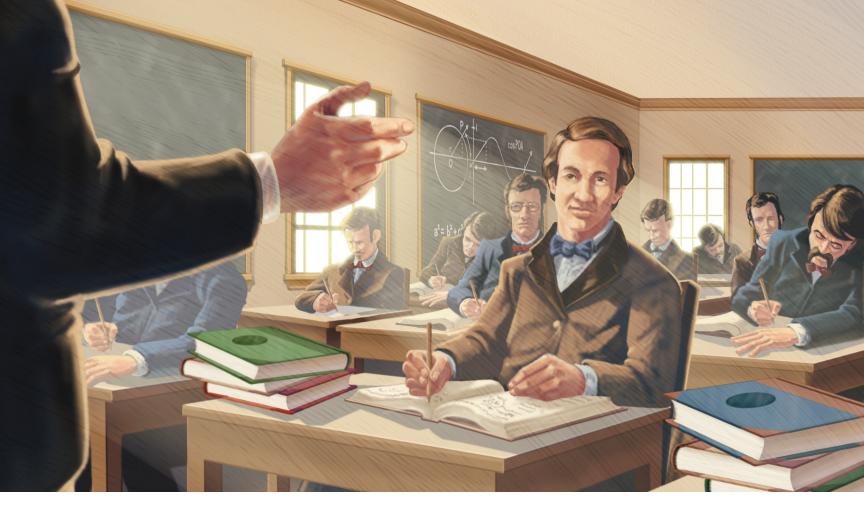
"I could be a doctor,



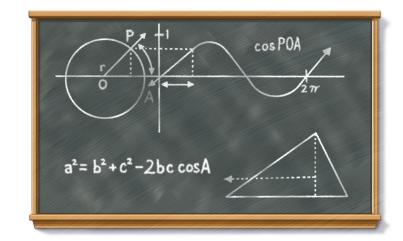


or a scientist."





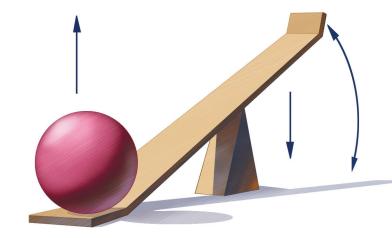
Louis wanted to become all three. He wanted to help people stay healthy by solving the mysteries of science. So he went to the best schools in France to learn as much as he could. He learned about math.





He learned about chemistry.







Louis was such a good scientist that he got to use his detective skills, too. The French emperor asked him to solve a mystery that no one else could figure out: Why does grape juice spoil?



Louis knew that making good juice from grapes was very important to the people in his country. With the help of his microscope, he began looking for clues.

He looked for clues on the outside of the grapes.

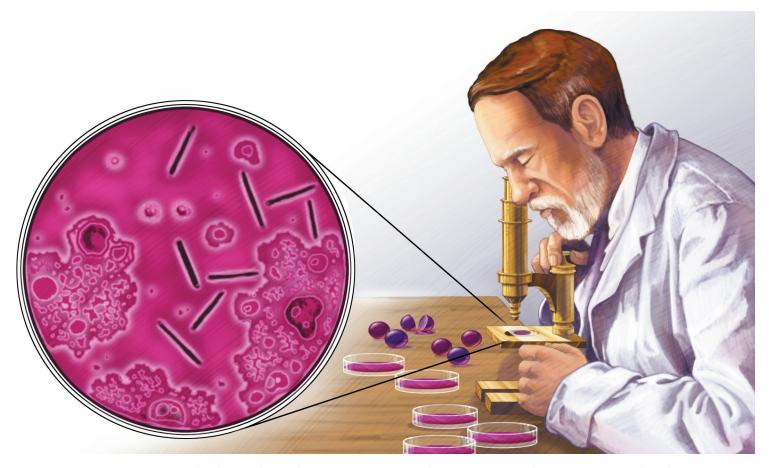




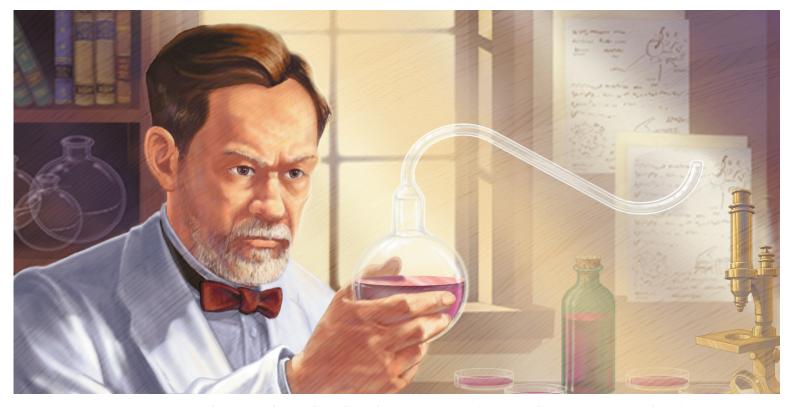
He looked for clues on the inside of the grapes.

He looked for clues in the juice of the grapes.





Louis found the clue he was searching for. There were little creatures living on the skin of the grapes! When these creatures got into the grape juice, they spoiled it.



Louis figured out that by boiling juice from the grapes, before bottling it, he could get rid of the little creatures. This would keep the juice from spoiling. This process is called "pasteurization." It is named after Louis Pasteur. Louis taught people how to pasteurize milk and other foods, too.



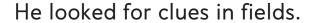
Louis was a successful scientist with excellent detective skills. He wanted to help people even more. So he set to work solving an even bigger mystery: Why do people get sick?

He looked for clues in hospitals.





He looked for clues in restaurants.





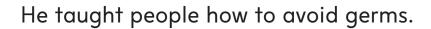


Louis followed a trail of clues from person to person. He discovered that tiny things called "germs" were making people sick.

He learned all about germs.



He made medicines to fight germs.







Louis Pasteur used the things he knew about each kind of germ to make a medicine to fight it. These medicines are called "vaccines." Thanks to Louis Pasteur, some vaccines save people's lives!

For Teachers and Parents

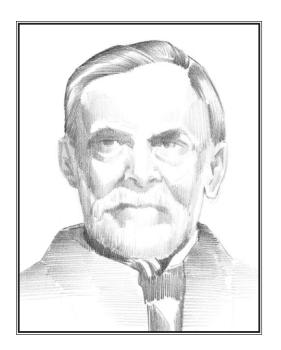
LOUIS PASTEUR
1822–1895
Louis Pasteur said, "Chance favors only the prepared mind."

Teacher

Louis Pasteur taught at several schools, including the University of Strasbourg and the University of Lille. He initiated a program of cooperative learning with local industry, conducting evening courses for workers and holding applied science classes on-site in factories.

Discoverer

Pasteur's early discoveries dealt with crystallography and organic chemistry, which led to his later work in fermentation. Pasteur discovered that fermentation and food spoilage are caused by microscopic organisms, and determined ways to control them using heat. In 1881, Pasteur used his knowledge of microorganisms to create a



vaccine against anthrax, and in 1885, finished a vaccine against rabies.

Honors

Louis Pasteur was elected to the Académie Française in 1882 and to the Academy of Medicine in 1873. He was given a research award by the French Parliament in 1874.

Math & Science

Scientist

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Published and distributed by Waterford Institute, Inc., Sandy, Utah.

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Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN 978-1-4256-0305-2

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