

# Yellow Fever and Typhus

## Yellow Fever

- Yellow fever is a virus spread by mosquitos
- A **virus** is a tiny parasite which can infect living things and cause disease. It can make copies of itself inside another organism's cells
- Yellow fever was a feared disease in the 1700's because no one knew the cause of it and there was no treatment for it
- Before doctors knew what caused it, they thought it was spread through contact with someone who had it
- Yellow fever is not contagious, meaning you cannot get it from someone who already has it
- Mild cases cause fever, headache, nausea, and vomiting. Serious cases may cause deadly heart, liver, and kidney conditions

## Typhus

- Typhus is a bacterial disease spread through contaminated food and water or close contact
- Bacteria are tiny micro organisms that can cause infections
- Typhus is very contagious because it can be spread from person to person through lice
- Symptoms include high fever, headache, belly pain, and either constipation or diarrhea