

Florence Nightingale

Florence was born on 12th May 1820, in Florence, Italy. Her family moved to England when she was a baby.

As a young woman, Florence believed that God had told her to spend her life looking after people, so she became a nurse.

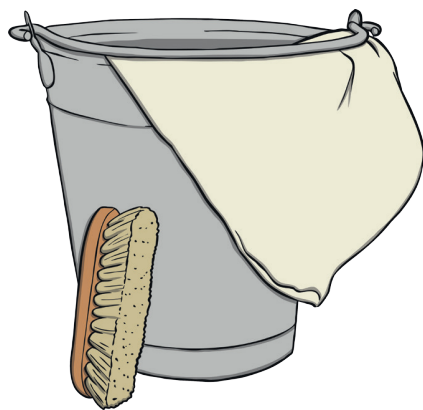
A war started and Florence went to look after the soldiers who had been hurt. Other nurses went with her.

Hospitals weren't very nice places in those days.



- Medicine was in short supply.
- The food was of poor quality.
- There weren't enough beds for the patients.

There weren't any toilets so the hospital was very dirty and smelly. Rats were common and many men died due to the poor conditions. Florence wanted to make things better so the other nurses helped her.



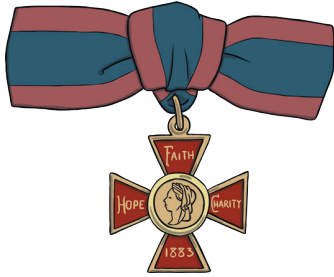
What Did They Do?

- The nurses cleaned the hospital.
- They washed their hands regularly to stop the spread of germs and infection.
- The patients were served better food.

These changes saved many lives.

Florence was respected by the soldiers. They called her 'The Lady with the Lamp' because she walked around the wards at night with her lantern.

Florence spent the rest of her life trying to make hospitals better places for everybody.



She was awarded the Royal Red Cross by Queen Victoria in 1883.

Questions

1. What year was Florence born in?

1802

1822

1820

1826

2. Complete the sentence.

Her family moved to _____ when she was a baby.

3. What were hospitals like before Florence started to change things?

4. Name two things that Florence and the nurses did to make things better at the hospital?

1. _____

2. _____

5. Why was Florence called 'The Lady with the Lamp?'

6. Describe Florence in 2 words and give reasons for your answers.
