Did the Pilgrims have any medicine?

No medicine could cure the terrible sickness. But the Pilgrims had plenty of medicine to cure aches and pains.

Plants called *herbs* were the medicine of the Pilgrims. When spring came, the women planted herbs in their gardens.

Suppose you cut yourself. Your mother would make a medicine from the *wild daisy*. She would mix it with animal fat and smear it on your cut.

Suppose you had a headache. Your mother would mix ground-up *sage* with fat and cornmeal. You would have to eat it, even if you hated the taste.

Rose leaves and the fruit of the rose, called rose hips, were said to be good for almost anything. Today we know that rose hips have the same vitamins oranges have.

If herbs did not cure you, you would go to Dr. Fuller. Most doctors of that time thought a good way to cure the sick was to bleed them. Dr. Fuller would cut open a vein in the sick person's arm and let some blood flow out.

