

# TSITSI AND THE MYSTERY ILLNESS

Tsitsi's village has been hit by a mystery illness, making many people sick. Her mother sends Tsitsi away to stay with her aunt. There Tsitsi talks to Sophie, a trainee nurse.

So, what's been happening in your village?

Everyone was well until two weeks ago. Then they all got sick.

What's the sickness like?

You get stomach ache then diarrhoea.

Where do you get your water from?

We use a bore hole but it broke about three weeks ago so we go to a pond nearby.

Tsitsi describes the pond the villagers now use. Can you spot 3 things which make the water unsafe?

Did the sickness start after you used the pond?

Yes, a few days after. Do you think the water is making people ill?

Tsitsi wants to go back and tell everyone to stop using dirty water, but Sophie says she must first learn about keeping water clean. She takes Tsitsi on a walk through the village.

What's that cup for?

Oh, it's a special cup used only for dipping in the pot.

What are the shoes for?

To stop worms getting into her feet and making her ill.

Who looks after the spring?

We take it in turns.

Why do you use mats?

Babies like to play in the dirt. They don't know about worms and things that make them sick.

Isn't that cover a waste of time?

No, it stops dirt falling down the well.

Tsitsi thanks Sophie for showing her around. Tomorrow she must return and tell everyone what she's learnt. Look at the pictures again. How many ways can Sophie's villagers make sure they stay healthy?