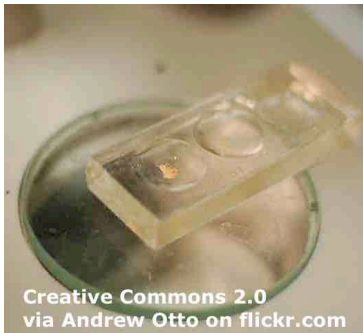


## More cases of monkeypox detected worldwide

23rd May, 2022



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An old idiom says, "it never rains, but it pours". This means that one difficult situation tends to follow another in rapid succession. Just as the COVID-19 pandemic is being brought under control in many parts of the world, another

potential threat is rearing its ugly head. The WHO has reported that there have been 120 worldwide cases of the rare monkeypox virus. It has been detected in the UK, France, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, the USA, Canada and Australia. The WHO said the virus could spread further in the coming months. WHO spokesperson Hans Kluge said: "As we enter the summer season, with mass gatherings, festivals and parties, I am concerned that transmission could accelerate".

Monkeypox is rarely fatal. Most of the cases reported thus far have been fairly mild. Symptoms of the disease include chills, fever, muscle aches, exhaustion and a nasty rash on the hands and face. It usually clears up two to four weeks after contracting it. Monkeypox was first detected in laboratory monkeys in 1958. It is thought to transmit from wild animals such as rodents to people. It can also spread from person to person. The virus is related to the smallpox virus, for which there are vaccines. Scientists say a smallpox vaccine is 85 per cent effective against the monkeypox virus. Despite this reassuring figure, virologists around the globe are on high alert and are tracking the spread of cases.

Sources: [nature.com](https://www.nature.com) / [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com) / [pbs.org](https://www.pbs.org)

### Writing

Governments should buy smallpox vaccines to protect against monkeypox. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

idiom / pour / rapid / potential / threat / rare / virus / worldwide / WHO / festivals / monkeypox / symptoms / fever / exhaustion / monkeys / rodents / smallpox / alert

### True / False

- 1) An idiom says it never pours, but it rains. T / F
- 2) The article says monkeypox is rearing its ugly head. T / F
- 3) Monkeypox has been detected in the USA but not Canada. T / F
- 4) The WHO said summer festivals could increase cases of monkeypox. T / F
- 5) The article says monkeypox is a very deadly disease. T / F
- 6) People who get monkeypox can get a bad rash. T / F
- 7) There is no connection between monkeypox and smallpox. T / F
- 8) Virologists are on high alert tracking the spread of cases. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. <b>succession</b> | a. number        |
| 2. <b>potential</b>  | b. get-togethers |
| 3. <b>detected</b>   | c. weariness     |
| 4. <b>gatherings</b> | d. following     |
| 5. <b>accelerate</b> | e. found         |
| 6. <b>fatal</b>      | f. pass on       |
| 7. <b>exhaustion</b> | g. speed up      |
| 8. <b>transmit</b>   | h. sequence      |
| 9. <b>figure</b>     | i. deadly        |
| 10. <b>tracking</b>  | j. possible      |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of the idiom, 'it never rains but it pours'?
- b) Have you ever had difficult situations in rapid succession?
- c) What do you know about monkeypox?
- d) How is COVID-19 for you at the moment?
- e) How much of a threat do you think monkeypox is?
- f) What should governments be doing about monkeypox?
- g) Why has monkeypox been spreading?
- h) What might happen in society if monkeypox becomes a pandemic?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. it never rains,                     | a. fatal             |
| 2. one difficult situation tends to    | b. accelerate        |
| 3. another potential threat is rearing | c. on the hands      |
| 4. It has been detected                | d. are on high alert |
| 5. that transmission could             | e. in the UK         |
| 6. Monkeypox is rarely                 | f. but it pours      |
| 7. Symptoms of the disease             | g. such as rodents   |
| 8. a nasty rash                        | h. follow another    |
| 9. transmit from wild animals          | i. include chills    |
| 10. virologists around the globe       | j. its ugly head     |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about a monkeypox pandemic?
- What do you think of the symptoms of monkeypox?
- Should we be trying to reduce rodent populations?
- What will the monkeypox situation be like this time next year?
- Will there be more pandemics in the future?
- Would you have a smallpox vaccine?
- What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

## Spelling

- An old miido
- tends to follow another in rapid ucssseicon
- another tpneioal threat
- earnig its ugly head
- It has been tdceeted in the UK
- that transmission could ceelarctae
- Monkeypox is rarely tafal
- omyptssm of the disease
- muscle aches, aexhionsut and a nasty rash
- wild animals such as nesotdr
- Despite this rreussagni figure
- oislrsovigt around the globe

### Answers – Synonym Match

|      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. h | 2. j | 3. e | 4. b | 5. g  |
| 6. i | 7. c | 8. f | 9. a | 10. d |

## Role Play

### Role A – Chills

You think chills are the worst symptoms of an illness. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their symptoms aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): fever, vomiting or headaches.

### Role B – Fever

You think fever is the worst symptoms of an illness. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their symptoms aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): chills, vomiting or headaches.

### Role C – Vomiting

You think vomiting is the worst symptoms of an illness. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their symptoms aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): fever, chills or headaches.

### Role D – Headaches

You think headaches are the worst symptoms of an illness. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their symptoms aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): fever, vomiting or chills.

## Speaking – Symptoms

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |            |                  |
|------------|------------------|
| • Chills   | • Muscle aches   |
| • Fever    | • Exhaustion     |
| • Rash     | • Headaches      |
| • Vomiting | • Stomach cramps |

### Answers – True False

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 F | 2 T | 3 F | 4 T | 5 F | 6 T | 7 F | 8 T |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.