

All About Blood

We all know blood is that red sticky stuff that comes out of your body when you get hurt, and on Halloween, we see blood as vampire food!

But, what is it really?

What is it made of?

What is it for?

Where does it go?

What Is It Made Of?



Blood is made of two parts:

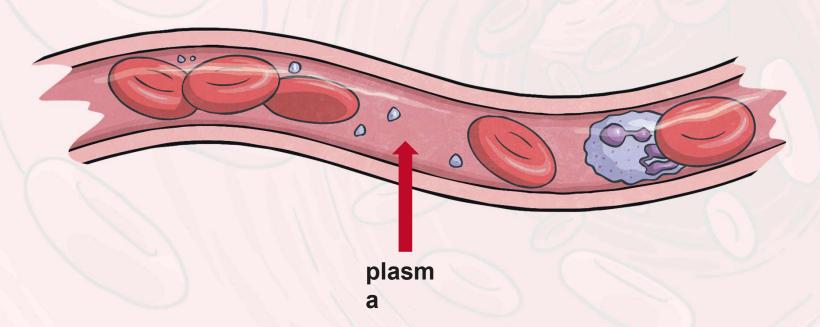
liquid

8

solid

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The liquid part of blood contains water and protein. This is called plasma!



The main protein found in blood is called albumin. The main function of this protein is to keep the blood inside the blood vessel.

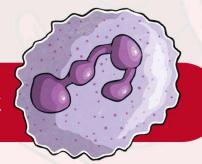
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The solid part of blood contains red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets.

Red blood cells carry oxygen through your body



White blood cells fight infections when you're sick



Platelets help you stop bleeding when you get hurt



What Is Blood For?

Thanks to all the components of blood (plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets) and their functions, we know that blood:

carries nutrients throughout the body;

gives oxygen to the body;

keeps you from getting sick.



Where Does Blood Go?

Blood travels through the circulatory system!

The heart is the main muscle that pumps blood to the rest of the body, but the heart has two jobs.

1. It sends the blood throughout the body.

2. It sends blood to the lungs to pick up oxygen.

Is Blood Actually Blue?

Many people think blood is actually blue because veins look blue. They explain that blood becomes red when it gets oxygenated!

This is all a **myth**; blood looks blue for the following reasons:

The way skin absorbs light, makes veins look blue when they actually aren't!

The colour of veins depends on the way you see colour. Your brain sees blue veins because it compares that colour to the colour of your skin!

