

Name _____

The Fascinating Journey of Blood Formation in the Body

Short Answer Key

1. Stem cells in the bone marrow have the ability to differentiate into various types of blood cells, including red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets, ensuring a continuous supply of healthy blood cells.
2. The spleen acts as a filter, removing old or damaged red blood cells and helping to recycle their components. It also stores platelets and plays a role in the immune response.
3. During fetal development, the liver produces blood cells because the bone marrow is not fully developed yet. This is a temporary function that shifts to the bone marrow as the fetus grows.
4. Red blood cells carry oxygen to body tissues, white blood cells defend against infections and foreign invaders, and platelets help stop bleeding by forming clots.
5. The continuous process of blood formation is crucial because it ensures that our bodies have a constant supply of healthy blood cells for oxygen transport, immune defense, and wound healing.

