

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Unveiling the Marvelous Components of the Circulatory System

### Short Answer Key

1. The heart is the central organ of the circulatory system. It pumps blood throughout the body, and it has four chambers: two atria (upper chambers) and two ventricles (lower chambers).
2. White blood cells contribute to the circulatory system by defending the body against harmful invaders like bacteria and viruses. They play a crucial role in the immune system.
3. Arteries have thick, muscular walls and carry oxygen-rich blood away from the heart, while veins have thinner walls and carry oxygen-poor blood back to the heart.
4. Capillaries are the smallest blood vessels in the circulatory system and are responsible for allowing the exchange of oxygen, nutrients, and waste products between the blood and body cells.
5. The circulatory system is essential for the body's well-being because it delivers vital oxygen and nutrients to every cell, removes waste products, fights off infections, regulates temperature, and maintains the body's pH balance.

