

Name _____

The Incredible Composition of Blood: Red Cells, White Cells, and Platelets

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. An interesting fact about blood is that it contains a diverse array of blood types, such as A, B, AB, and O, along with positive (+) and negative (-) Rh factors. These variations are determined by the presence or absence of specific antigens on the surface of red blood cells. The compatibility of blood types is crucial for blood transfusions and organ transplants.
2. Maintaining a balanced composition of blood components is essential for overall health and well-being because it ensures that oxygen and nutrients are delivered to body cells, waste products are removed efficiently, and the immune system can defend against infections and diseases effectively. Any imbalance in blood composition can lead to various health issues, highlighting the importance of a healthy circulatory system.

