

Name _____

Unlocking the Mystery: How Many Bones in the Human Body?

Short Answer Key

1. (Answers may vary) Examples of long bones include the femur (thigh bone) and the humerus (upper arm bone).
2. The fusion of bones like the sacrum and coccyx is important for mobility because it provides stability to the lower part of the spine and allows for proper sitting and standing.
3. The skeleton protects vital organs by encasing them in strong bones. For example, the ribcage protects the heart and lungs, and the skull protects the brain.
4. (Answers may vary) An example of an irregular bone is a vertebra. It is irregular because of its unique shape and the presence of processes and foramina.
5. Sesamoid bones, like the patella (kneecap), are small, round bones that develop within tendons. They protect tendons from excessive wear and tear.

