

Name _____

The Incredible Journey of Blood: How It Circulates Throughout Your Body

Short Answer Key

1. The heart is the central pumping organ of the circulatory system, located slightly to the left of the chest.
2. Capillaries are the smallest blood vessels, and they allow the exchange of oxygen, nutrients, and waste products between the blood and body cells. They differ from arteries and veins in size and function.
3. Oxygen-rich blood turns from blue to bright red in the lungs due to the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide. The change in color is a result of the binding of oxygen to hemoglobin in red blood cells.
4. Some crucial functions of blood circulation include delivering oxygen and nutrients to every cell, removing carbon dioxide and waste products, regulating body temperature, supporting the immune system, and enabling the clotting process.
5. Disruption or stoppage of blood circulation can lead to serious health consequences, including tissue damage, organ failure, and, in extreme cases, death.

