

Blood and blood vessels

**What is the function of red blood cells?**

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**What is haemoglobin?**

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**Why do red blood cells have a biconcave shape?**

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**Why do red blood cells have no nucleus?**

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**What do phagocytes do?**

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**What do lymphocytes do?**

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**What is plasma and what does it carry?**

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**What are platelets?**

The red substance in red blood cells that combines with oxygen to form oxyhaemoglobin.

To carry oxygen from the lungs to the cells.

To make more room for haemoglobin.

It gives a large surface area for absorbing oxygen.

They produce antibodies that destroy pathogens.

They engulf pathogens and digest them.

Small fragments of cells with no nucleus that help the blood to clot.

The liquid part of blood. It carries blood cells, carbon dioxide, urea, digested food, mineral ions and hormones.

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**How is an artery adapted to carry blood at high pressure?**

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**How is a vein adapted to its function?**

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**How is a capillary adapted for exchange?**

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**Which direction does blood flow in arteries, veins and capillaries?**

Thinner wall, wide lumen and valves to stop backflow of blood at low pressure.

Thick muscular wall, elastic fibres and a narrow lumen.

Arteries away from the heart, veins towards the heart, capillaries between them through the tissues.

Walls one cell thick for a short diffusion distance, and a large network for a large surface area.