

# Vocabulary

1. **artery** - blood vessel that carries blood away from the heart
2. **vein** - blood vessel that carries blood back to the heart
3. **capillary** - smallest blood vessel found between arteries and veins
4. **atrium** - one of two upper chambers of the heart
5. **ventricle** - one of two lower chambers of the heart
6. **aorta** - main artery of the body
7. **plasma** - yellowish fluid that makes up more than 50% the volume of blood; it contains nutrients, hormones, and minerals and is about 90% water
8. **red blood cell** - carries the oxygen throughout the circulatory system
9. **white blood cell** - these cells are the body's main defense against germs and bacteria
10. **platelets** - blood cells which help with blood clotting
11. **coronary circulation** - the heart needs a constant and fresh supply of blood which is delivered by the coronary circulation system
12. **hemoglobin** - a substance that attracts and holds onto oxygen molecules; hemoglobin is in the red blood cells
13. **bone marrow** - inside certain long bones of the body, the bone marrow is the site of blood cell production and storage
14. **fibrin** - long thread-like mesh that helps clot blood
15. **clot** - seals a wound by forming a thickened concentration of blood
16. **pacemaker** - an area of the heart that regulates or signals the beating of the heart
17. **cardiac muscle** - the heart
18. **one-way valve** - a valve that allows the flow of blood in only one direction
19. **pulmonary arteries** - arteries which carry carbon dioxide rich blood from the heart to the lungs
20. **pulmonary veins** - veins which carry the oxygen-rich blood from the lungs back to the heart