EXPLORE our WORLD

CLIL READERS

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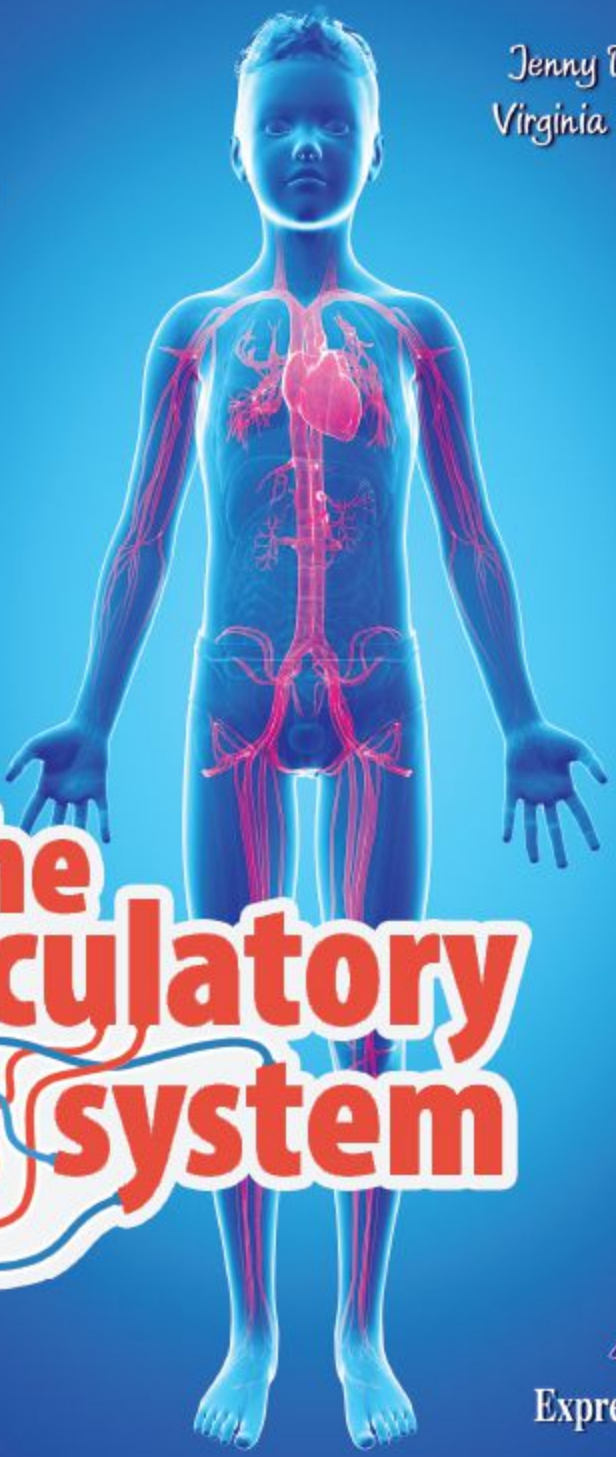

The circulatory system

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Contents

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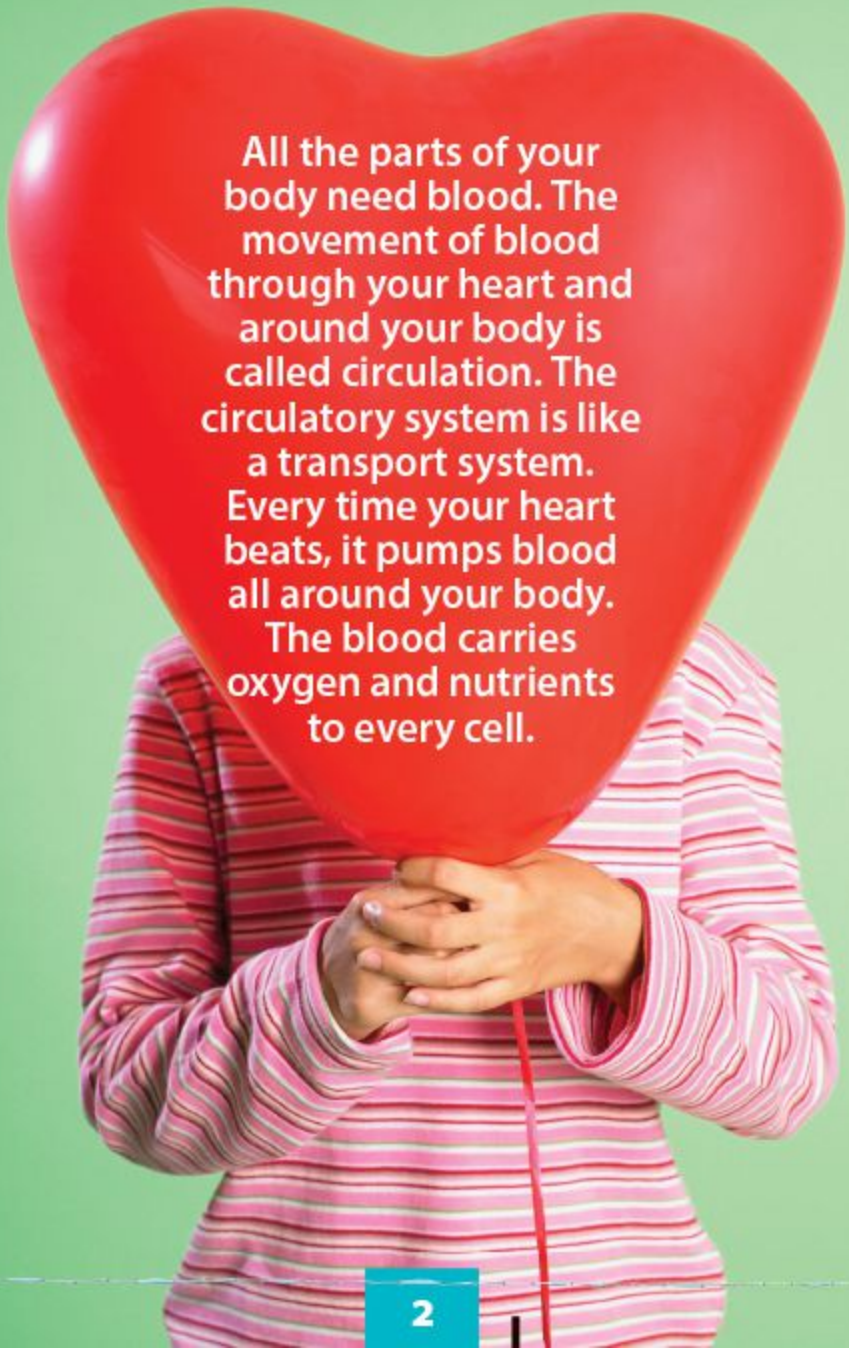
LET'S START!



All the parts of your body need blood. The movement of blood through your heart and around your body is called circulation. The circulatory system is like a transport system. Every time your heart beats, it pumps blood all around your body. The blood carries oxygen and nutrients to every cell.

Every day, about five litres of blood travel many times through blood vessels that branch and cross in an amazing network that links all the cells of your body together. Let's take a closer look at how the circulatory system keeps you alive and active!

1 WHAT IS THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM?

All the cells in your body need oxygen and nutrients. This is what keeps you alive. The cells also need their wastes, such as carbon dioxide, removed. This is the job of the **circulatory system**.

The circulatory system uses a network of blood vessels to carry carbon dioxide to the lungs. When you breathe out, the carbon dioxide leaves your body. Then, when you breathe in, oxygen goes into the lungs and the same network of blood vessels carries it to all parts of your body. To put it simply, the circulatory system is a loop which starts and ends at the heart. It is called a closed system because the blood does not enter or leave the system on its journey around your body. In a closed system, a continuous flow of blood can be pumped through the loop again and again.