



Teacher Resource

Blood Donation Day

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Briefly summarise the Blood Donation Day story.
2. How many Australians will need donated blood at some stage?
 - a. One in three
 - b. One in ten
 - c. One in fifty
3. Just half a litre of blood can save up to _____ lives.
4. What are the components of blood?
5. Which blood type can anyone receive?
6. What sorts of things is donated blood used for?
7. What happens to the blood once it's been donated?
8. Why does Eva need plasma infusions every week?
9. What is Eva's message to people that give blood?
10. What did you learn watching this story?

Activity: Class Discussion

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Blood Donation Day story. Ask students to record what they learnt about blood donation on a mind map. What questions do students have? Use the following to guide the discussion:

- Do you know anyone who has either donated blood or has received a blood donation?
- What did you learn about blood donation?
- What does this story make you wonder?
- How do you feel about blood donation?
- It was interesting to learn that...
- Why do you think it is important to hear about stories like this?
- How has your thinking changed since watching this story?
- What questions do you have about this topic?



EPISODE 17

15th June 2021

KEY LEARNING

Students will develop an understanding of the components of blood and ways to encourage people to donate blood.

CURRICULUM

Science – Year 5 and 6

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

Science – Year 7

People use science understanding and skills in their occupations and these have influenced the development of practices in areas of human activity.

Scientific knowledge has changed peoples' understanding of the world and is refined as new evidence becomes available.

Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Blood Donation Day story. Below are some words to get them started. Students will create their own class glossary of scientific keywords and terms. Consider using photos, illustrations and/or diagrams to help explain each keyword.

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| PLATELETS | PLASMA | WHITE BLOOD CELLS |
| BLOOD GROUPS | RED BLOOD CELLS | BLOOD DONATION |

Further investigation: Tricky words

Students will choose additional keywords and terms to add to their class glossary that are tricky. For example, antigens, antibodies, haemoglobin or cardiovascular system. Students will find a definition and explain to their classmates what the keywords mean.

Activity: Research project

Students will start to think like scientists and develop their own question/s for inquiry, collecting and recording information from a wide variety of sources. Students may develop their own question for inquiry or select one or more of the questions below.

- How does blood travel around the body? Use as many of these terms in your description: circulatory system, oxygen, blood vessels, arteries, heart, circulation.
- What is blood made of? Use objects to demonstrate the various parts of blood.
- Why is blood red?
- What is the function of blood?

Activity: Public education campaign

Students will design a public education campaign to raise awareness about blood donation. Students will think about their campaign's aim, target audience, and the value of raising awareness at their school.

To create a school awareness campaign, students will need to identify the following:

- What is blood donation?
- What type of blood can be donated?
- Who can be a blood donor?
- Why is blood donation important?
- What is the process for blood donation?
- How can you teach other kids about the importance of blood donation? Think of creative ways you can teach kids your message about the topic.

Some questions to consider when designing your campaign:

- What is the campaign's main aim?
- Do you have a slogan or message? What is it?

- Who is your target audience?
- What is the best way to communicate the message?

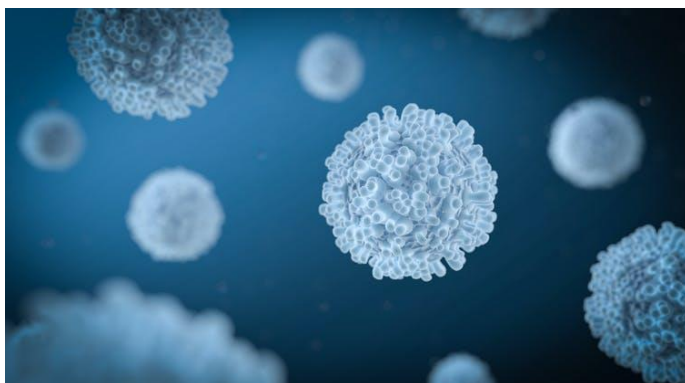
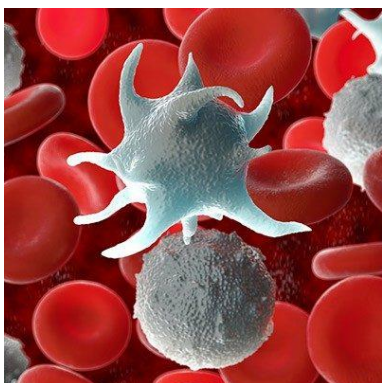
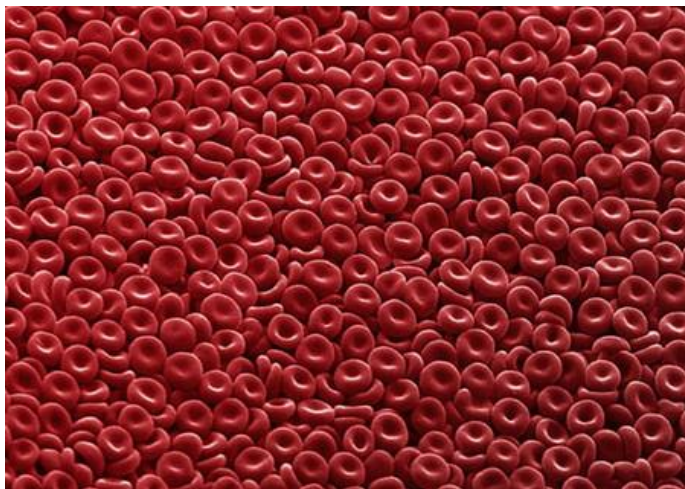
Discuss with students how they will get their message out there to help raise public awareness. Some possibilities include:

- Short film or animation
- Community service announcement (for print, television or radio).
- Press release (create posters to be put up around the school or pamphlets to give to all students).

Activity: Visual literacy

In this activity students will examine, analyse and query the images below, which show the different parts that make up blood. Students will respond to the following:

- Write a short paragraph describing what you see in this image. What colour is it? What shape is it? What size is it?
- Write a caption for each image.
- What is the scientific name for each component of blood?
- What is the function of each component?
- What questions do you have about what you see in the image?



Useful Websites

- [Learn about blood donation](#) – Australian Red Cross
- [How bones make blood?](#) – TEDEd
- [How the heart actually pumps blood](#) – TEDEd