**Project: The Journey of a Red Blood Cell**

***Due 11-8-2012***

In this activity you will be given two choices in how you communicate your knowledge of the circulatory system. For this assignment, you will create a project that describes the voyage of a red blood cell throughout the circulatory system, from the point of view of the cell. You have a choice between two types of projects; you may create either a narrative story or a slide-show presentation (Prezi, Powerpoint, etc.). If you have an alternate idea for creating this project, please come see me and I will let you know whether or not it is acceptable. You may work individually or in groups of two (only two).

***Project requirements:***

* **Every project HAS to**- be from the point of view of the red blood cell (telling its life story/journey as your own).
* **Every project HAS to**- begin and end your cell’s journey in the right atrium, if you perform the cycle correctly your cell will end up where it began.
* **Every project HAS to**- include the major parts of the circulatory system. See the vocabulary words in your notebook and on the circulatory system tab, you must use them ALL! The ‘songs’ on my website will also help you in figuring out the path a red blood cell travels (its journey). Keep in mind that the ‘lungs’ are not in your vocabulary terms however, they play a PIVOTAL role in the life of a red blood cell.
* **Every project HAS to**- state where and how oxygen and carbon dioxide are exchanged. (Yes, this may require research!)
* **Every project HAS to**- include information about the blood and its path that aren’t in your notes. Things like, what do blood and/or blood cells carry inside of them (oxygen, etc.), how many cells are in one drop of blood, another name for red blood cells, how long it takes a cell to travel, the list goes on and on. Choose details about the system and blood cells that fit easily into your story, be *creative*, and research to find unique information!
* **Every project length**- Your project should be AT LEAST thirty sentences long (any shorter and you will lose points). Incorrect grammar, punctuation, and lack of sentence/paragraph structure will also detract points from your grade.

Be as creative as you can with this assignment; give your cell its own ‘personality’. Below I’ve included an opening example of what I’m looking for (your project does not have to be exactly like this, it’s just an example), as well as a few other creative ideas for you project, including helpful websites!

Howdy, Rowdy Ruby!

Howdy y’all! My name is Ruby. My friends, the white blood cells like to call me “Rowdy Ruby” but, I think they’re just jealous of my vibrant red cell color and ‘swagger’. Certain people like Doctors and nurses sometimes call me by their own nickname, Erythrocyte; I prefer Ruby (thank you very much)! I may have a bit of an attitude, as most reds do, but you would too if you were born in the bone marrow and had to work as hard as I do every second of every day! Not that I’m complaining, my job is pretty much the biggest deal EVER, making it totally awesome but, it’s still really, really hard sometimes! I have to work the HARDEST during exercising, my goodness, the heart starts pumping faster and faster making my ride around the body a crazy roller coaster experience! You see, it’s my job to carry oxygen from the lungs to the body tissues and take carbon dioxide (a harmful gas) from the tissues and to the lungs so they can exhale it out of the body. Super cool right? I mean, I get to start every day in the right atrium which, everyone who’s anyone knows is ‘THE’ place to be! When I get to the right atrium during my constant cycle, the doors of the ‘tricuspid’ valve (as I like to call it) open like a V.I.P. entrance to the right ventricle. Etc….

Helpful Research Sites:

* <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/health-and-human-body/human-body/heart-article/> 🡨 (Amazing website!)
* <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/circulatory-system/mm00636>
* <http://hes.ucfsd.org/gclaypo/circulatorysys.html#The%20Blood>
* <http://missbolender.weebly.com/circulatory-system.html>