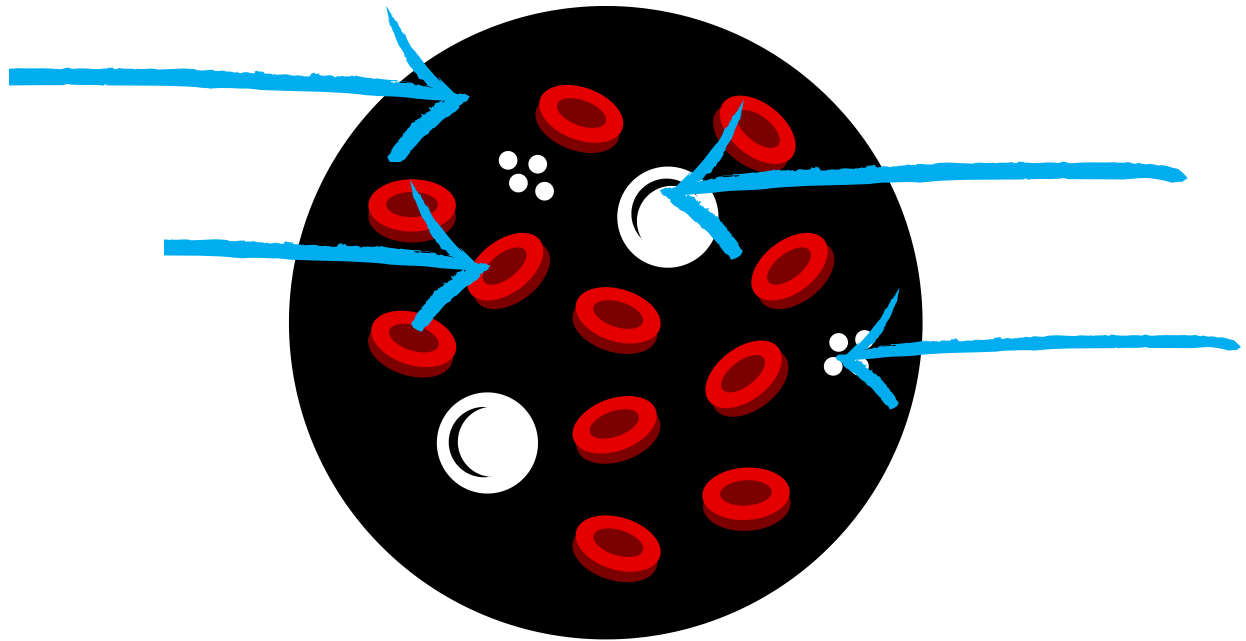




## All About Blood

1. This is a diagram of the components of blood. Can you label them?



2. Why do you think so many people are afraid of the sight of blood? What could they be worried about?

---



---



---



3. Would you want to donate blood when you're old enough? Why/why not?

---



---



---



Read about vampire bats, then answer the questions below.



There's no such thing as vampires, but these 8-centimetre long bats from Central and South America are real-life Draculas! Every night, they head out to bite farm animals with their razor sharp fangs, then lap up the blood that oozes out.

They're the only mammals in the world to survive on a diet of pure blood... which, one bat expert says, should be a "terrible food source." Why? Because blood has hardly any calories, no carbs, and very little fat.



So how do vampire bats survive on blood alone? Well, scientists have compared the DNA of vampire bats with 26 other bat species, and found that 13 genes are missing or not working in the vampire bats. This has allowed them to adapt to their gory diet.

And yes, they have been known to feast on human blood as well. Best to sleep inside when you're in vampire bat country!

4. Do you think "vampire bat" is a good common name for these creatures? Why/why not?



5. Look at the pictures. How would you describe a vampire bat to someone who is blind?