



## Curiosity Guide #505

### Circulatory System

Accompanies Curious Crew, Season 5, Episode 5 (#505)

#### How Much Blood?

Investigation #3

#### Description

How much blood do you think our bodies hold?

#### Materials

- 5 one-liter bottles
- Water
- Food coloring

#### Procedure

- 1) Fill five one-liter bottles with water.
- 2) Add red food coloring.
- 3) Show only one of the bottles to a friend and have him or her guess how many bottles would equal the amount of blood in an average person.
- 4) What did your friend guess and why did she or he think that?
- 5) Show your friend all five bottles.
- 6) Is that surprising?

#### My Results

## Explanation

The average adult has between 4.5 and 5.5 liters of blood, or 1.2 to 1.5 gallons, in his or her body. As we get bigger, the amount of blood in our bodies increases as well. For example, a 5 to 8-pound newborn baby has only enough blood to fill one cup, similar to the amount of blood in a ten-pound cat. A blue whale, on the other hand, has about 58 gallons of blood in its body.

Parents and Educators: use #CuriousCrew  
#CuriosityGuide to share what your Curious  
Crew learned!



*Curious Crew is a production of Michigan State University.*

*Learn more at [WKAR.org](http://WKAR.org).*

*© MSU Board of Trustees. All rights reserved.*