



Curiosity Guide #505

Circulatory System

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

Tennis Ball Heart

Investigation 6

Description

How is a heart like a tennis ball? Find out!

Materials

- A friend
- Tennis ball
- Drill
- 1/8-inch drill bit
- Container of water
- Sink or basin
- Paper towels

Procedure

- 1) Drill a small hole in the tennis ball.
- 2) Submerge the ball in water and squeeze out some of the air.
- 3) Lift the ball out of water with the hole facing up.
- 4) Hold the wet ball over a basin or sink. Give the ball a sharp squeeze.
- 5) Relax your hand and then squeeze the ball again.
- 6) How is the ball acting like the heart?

My Results

Explanation

The tennis ball is acting like one chamber of the heart. When the ball is squeezed, some of the water squirts through the hole, like the blood getting squeezed out of one of the heart chambers. Relaxing your hand is similar to when the blood fills up the chamber once again.

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