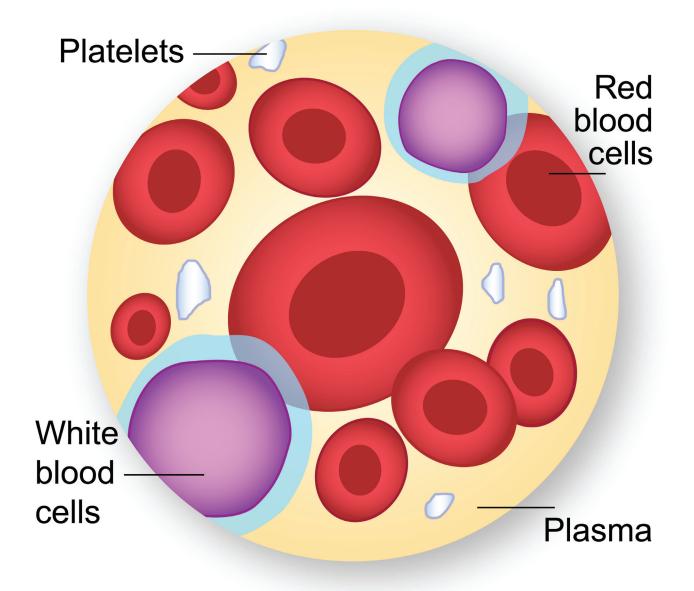


THE BLOOD





The circulatory system is the route by which the cells in your body get the oxygen and nutrients they need, but the blood is the actual carrier of the oxygen and nutrients. Blood is actually a tissue made up of a variety of cells, each having a different job. Three main types of blood cells circulate with the plasma:

- Platelets (thrombocytes) help the blood to clot.
- Red blood cells (erythrocytes) carry oxygen.
- White blood cells (leukocytes) ward off infection.

©2011 Texas Heart Institute texasheart.org