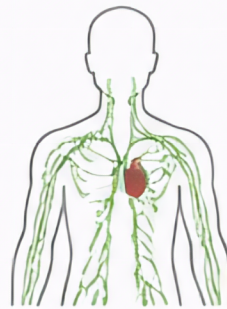




MAKING A MODEL OF THE LYMPHATIC SYSTEM



PURPOSE: To build a model of the lymphatic system and learn how it helps protect the body and move fluid.



MATERIALS

- Clear plastic tubing or green yarn/string
- Green beads or small pom-poms (lymph nodes)
- Small funnel
- Clear cup or bowl
- Green tinted water (water + a drop of green food coloring)
- Tape
- Scissors (if using string)
- Tray or large sheet of paper
- Human outline template (included or draw your own)

Note: This model shows how lymph (fluid) travels through vessels and nodes.



PROCEDURE

1. Place the human outline template on your tray or paper.
2. Use the plastic tubing or green string to lay out the major lymphatic vessels on the body outline (arms, legs, neck, chest, abdomen). Tape in place.
3. Place green beads or pom-poms at key spots to show lymph nodes (neck, armpits, chest, abdomen, groin, behind knees).
4. Attach the funnel at the top of the model (head or neck area) as the starting point.
5. Slowly pour the green tinted water into the funnel.
6. Watch as the "lymph" (colored water) travels through the vessels and around the nodes, and drains out at the bottom or sides.
7. Record your observations and answer the questions.



OBSERVATIONS

What happened to the green water as you poured it in?

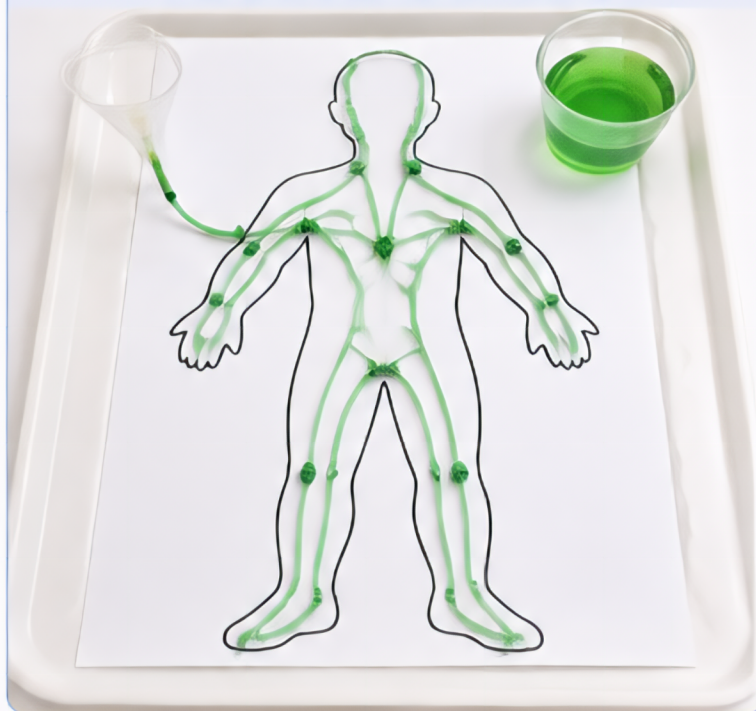
Where did it flow the easiest?



THINK & ANSWER

1. What do the green beads/pom-poms represent? _____
2. What do the tubes or strings represent? _____
3. Why do you think the lymphatic system is important for our body?

YOUR LYMPHATIC SYSTEM MODEL



WHAT DOES THE LYMPHATIC SYSTEM DO?

- ✓ Returns extra fluid to the bloodstream
- ✓ Defends the body by filtering out germs
- ✓ Absorbs fats from digestion (in the intestines)
- ✓ Transports lymph (a fluid with white blood cells) through a network of vessels and lymph nodes



EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Research and label these parts on your model:

- Lymph nodes
- Lymph vessels
- Thoracic duct
- Spleen
- Tonsils
- Bone marrow



Challenge:

Add labels and a title to your model to turn it into a poster!

WHAT I LEARNED

One new thing I learned today: _____