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Circulating Life: Blood Transfusion from Ancient Superstition to Modern Medicine

Eliza Nevin

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Winner, Cherie. *Circulating Life: Blood Transfusion from Ancient Superstition to Modern Medicine*. Twenty-First Century Books, 2007. 9780822566069. \$29.27. 112p.

Reviewer: Eliza Nevin

Reading level: Primary, Intermediate

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Informational books

Subject: Blood—Transfusion—Juvenile literature; Blood—Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews

Although its medical use is familiar and common in the twenty-first century, blood was a mysterious substance five hundred years ago. This book covers the history of medical discoveries about blood. It also explains the parts of blood and how they function in the body. The book discusses recent research and new developments regarding blood's use in the medical field while acknowledging that research moves so fast that the book itself will soon be outdated.

Winner writes for Washington State Magazine and holds a Ph.D. in zoology from the Ohio State University. Her interesting explanations of the uses for blood will appeal to primary readers, but the scientific details may be difficult for younger students to understand. A glossary of scientific terms helps teach the complex scientific concepts. The book also includes a selected bibliography and suggestions for further reading. A fun and helpful addition to a classroom or a children's library.