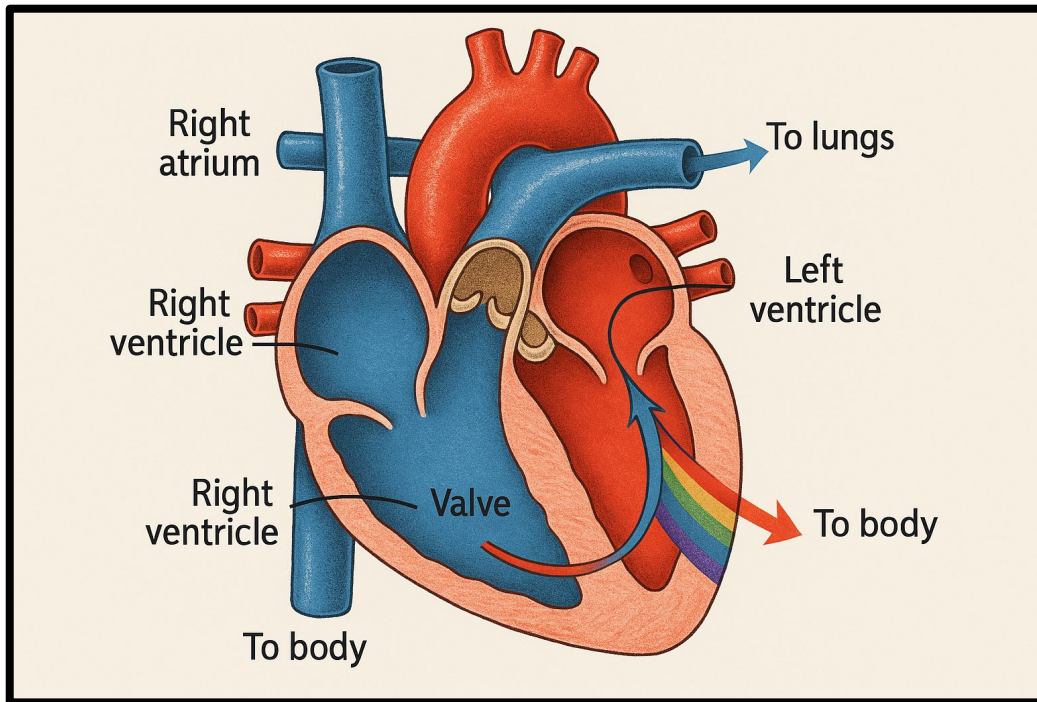


# Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Text Features & Structure

Read the short story and answer each question.



## How the Heart Works

The heart is one of the most important organs in your body. It works like a pump to move blood through your body every second of the day.

The heart has four chambers—two on the top called **atria**, and two on the bottom called **ventricles**. Blood enters the atria and is pushed down into the ventricles. Then the ventricles pump the blood out to the lungs or the rest of the body.

Blood from the body carries waste like carbon dioxide. When the heart sends it to the lungs, carbon dioxide is removed and fresh oxygen is added. The heart then pumps the oxygen-rich blood out to your organs and muscles.

**Valves** inside the heart make sure the blood moves in only one direction. These valves open and close with each heartbeat. This creates the “lub-dub” sound doctors hear with a stethoscope.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## How the Heart Works

1. How does the diagram help the reader understand the heart?

- A. It shows the chambers and the direction blood flows.
- B. It shows what food the heart needs.
- C. It compares the heart to the brain.
- D. It lists different types of exercise.

2. What is labeled in the diagram to help the reader?

- A. Atria, ventricles, valves, and arrows for blood flow
- B. Bones and muscles
- C. Hair and skin
- D. Food and water

3. Fill in the blank:

The two top chambers of the heart are called the \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What parts of the diagram help you understand how blood moves through the heart?

---

---

---

5. Why is it helpful to see arrows and labels when learning about the heart?

---

---

---



# Parent and Teacher Guide

---

**Guide Reading Level:** P

**Lexile Level:** 645L-795L

**Grade Level:** 3rd Grade, End of the Year

**Genre:** Informational / Human Body Science

---

## Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read about how the human heart works. As we read, we'll look closely at the diagram and the way it helps explain how blood moves through the chambers and valves. The illustration adds important information that supports what the text describes."

**Vocabulary:** atria, ventricles, valves, oxygen, stethoscope

---

## Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you already know about the heart?
  2. Why might a diagram be helpful when learning about the body?
  3. What does the heart do for our body?
- 

## During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What are the four chambers of the heart?
  2. What job do the valves do?
  3. What does the diagram show that the words also explain?
- 

## After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How does the diagram help you understand the flow of blood?
  2. What would be harder to picture without the illustration?
  3. Why do authors include labeled diagrams in nonfiction texts?
- 

## Activity Idea

Have students label a blank heart diagram with atria, ventricles, and valves. Then, using red and blue arrows, they will show how blood flows to the lungs and back to the body. Finish with a sentence explaining why this process is important for health.

