

Name _____

The Pump Inside Us

Your heart is a giant muscle. It acts like a pump. Instead of water, the heart pumps blood throughout your body. It does this each time it beats.

Your **heart** is behind your rib cage and in front of your **lungs**. It leans slightly to the left. That is where you can feel the strongest heartbeat.

Your heart contains four different chambers. The two chambers at the top are the atriums. There is a **left atrium** and a **right atrium**. The two chambers at the bottom are the ventricles. There is a **left ventricle** and a **right ventricle**, too.

The two left chambers receive blood from the body. The blood has no oxygen at this point. So the left chambers send the blood to the lungs. There the blood will receive a fresh supply of oxygen.

The two right chambers receive the blood on its return trip from the lungs. Then they pump it out to the rest of your body.

The **aorta** is a loop of tubes. It carries the blood with oxygen from the heart to the other body parts. It stretches above and below the heart muscle.

Your heart weighs much less than a pound. Yet it is strong enough to beat 40 million times a year!

Label the parts of the heart.

