

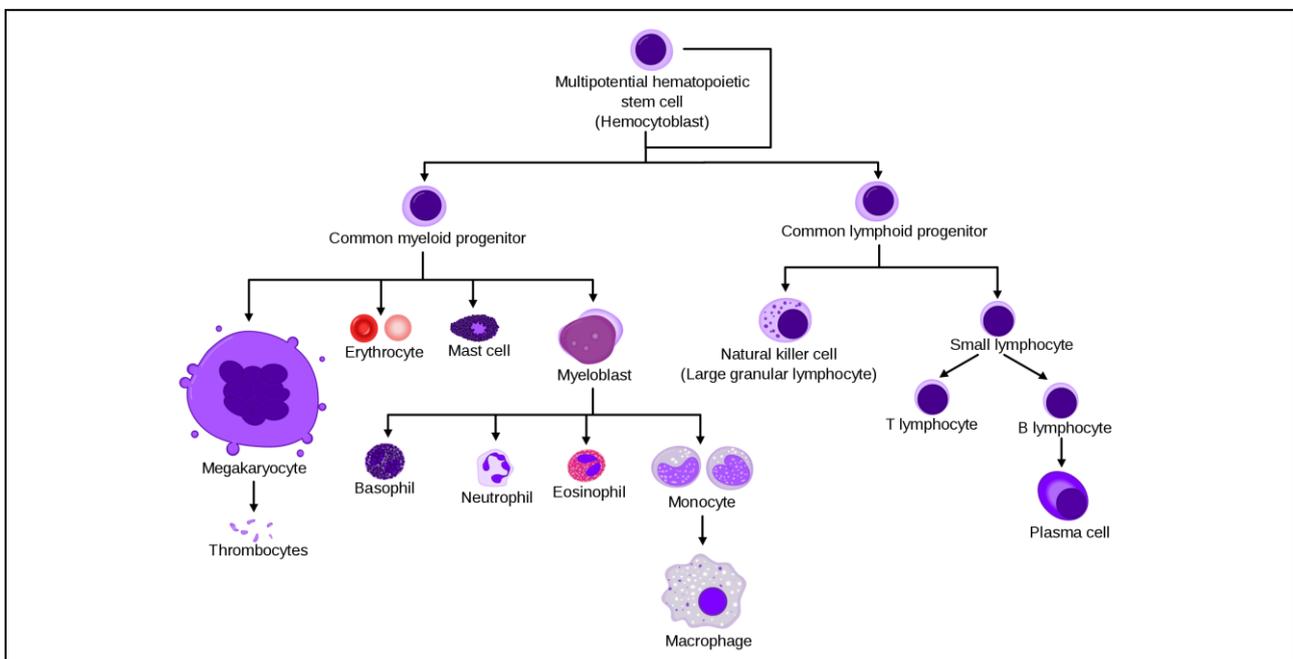


## Key Stage 5 – Immune Cell Top Trumps

### Notes for teachers

#### At a glance

Students are introduced to a wide variety of immune cells in A-level biology. For students to gain a firm understanding of the immune system they must understand the roles of each of these cells and how they interact with other cells of the immune system. Students often find the detail in this topic overwhelming. This top trumps activity is intended to be a fun and interactive way for students to engage with and review the content of immune cells and their function.



#### Learning Outcomes

- Review roles of individual immune cells
- Review interdependencies of immune cells
- Develop understanding of the order of events of an immune response

#### Each student will need

- A copy of the student top trumps activity



## Possible Lesson Activities

- **Starter activity**
  - Show Oxford Sparks animation 'Our immune system – the battle within' to introduce / reintroduce topic of immunity (see web links below).
- **Main activity: Immunity Top Trumps**
  - Hand out top trump card worksheets. To prepare them, cards should be cut out and corresponding cards stuck front to back to make a double-sided card (these can be assembled by students quickly in the lesson or can be prepared in advance).
  - Once prepared give time for students to study the information on the cards.
  - Students then use the top trumps to play in pairs. The rules of top trumps can be found here <http://www.toptrumps.com/how-to-play-top-trumps/>.
    - In addition to the normal rules, the winner must then answer a question about the card they are trying to steal (Students can either prepare these questions in advance or base them off the information on the back of the card). If students answer incorrectly, they do not take the card and lose their turn. Both players should shuffle the cards from that round to the back.
- **Main activity: Immune cell mapping**
  - Using a blank A4/A3 sheet, students work in pairs or small groups and attempt to produce a timeline of immune action using each of the cells in the top trumps game. Arrows and labels should make clear any immune cell interactions as well where immune cells derive from. Students may find textbook diagrams helpful for this activity.
- **Plenary**
  - Top trumps competition with winner gaining a prize.

## Web links

- Oxford sparks animation: Our immune system – the battle within  
<https://www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/content/our-immune-system-battle-within>