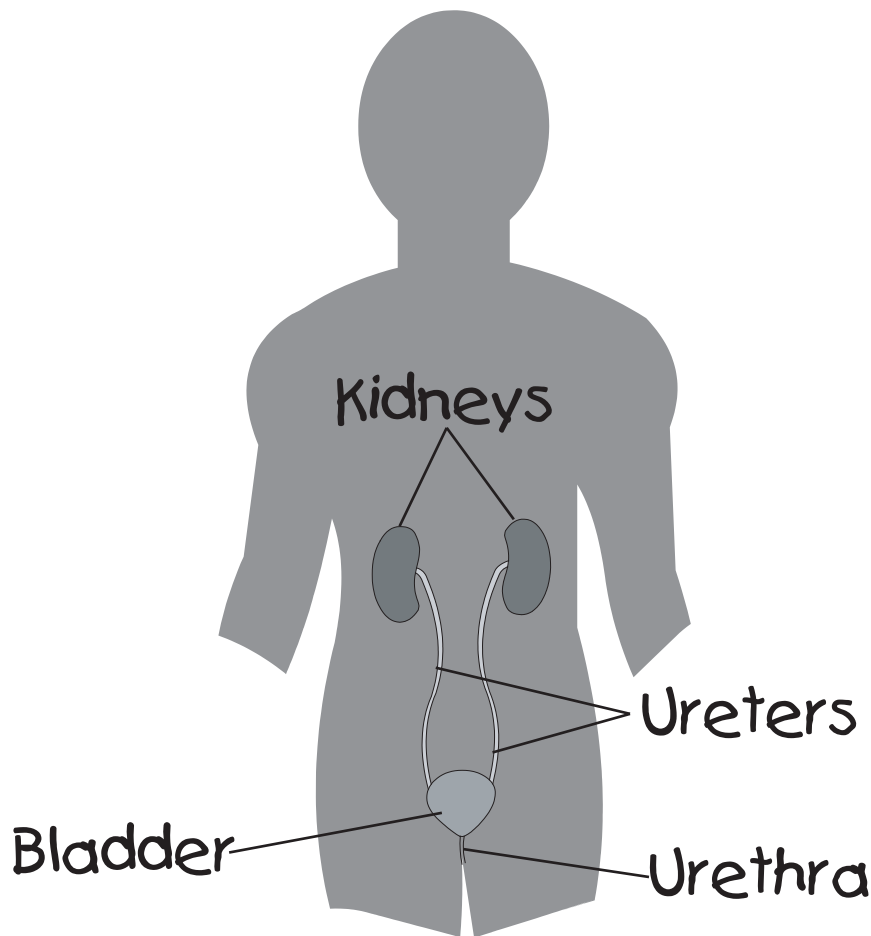


EXCRETORY SYSTEM

THE ROLE OF THE KIDNEY

What is the role of the kidney?

Your **kidneys** are two bean-shaped organs that act like a filter. They keep your blood clean and balanced. The kidneys are part of what is known as the excretory system. The **bladder**, **ureters**, and **urethra** are also organs that play an important part in removing waste from your body.

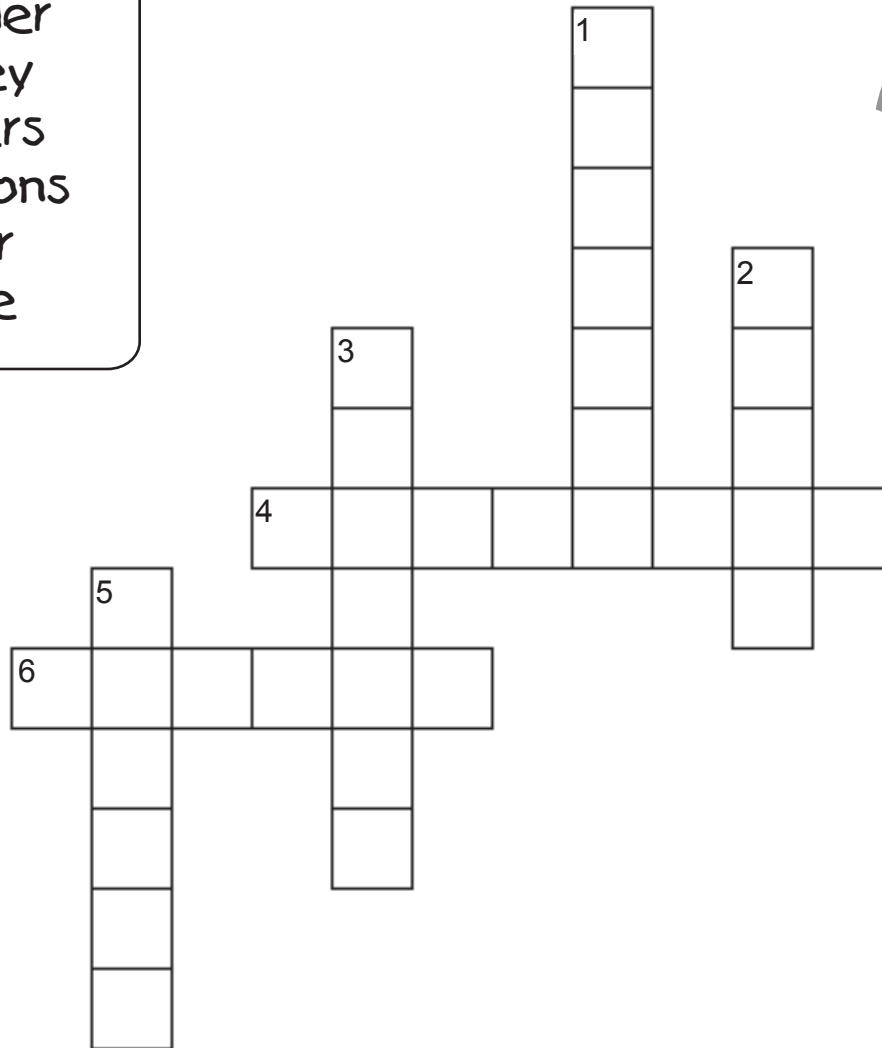
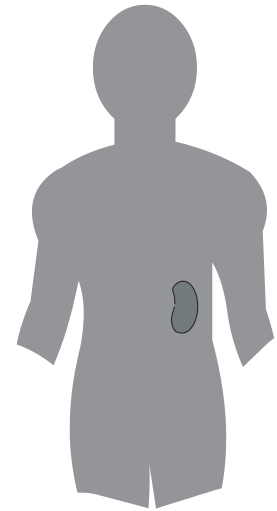


Can you think of other kinds of filters in your daily life?

Kidney Crossword Puzzle

WORD BANK

bladder
kidney
ureters
nephrons
filter
urine



Use the hints to solve the puzzle.

ACROSS

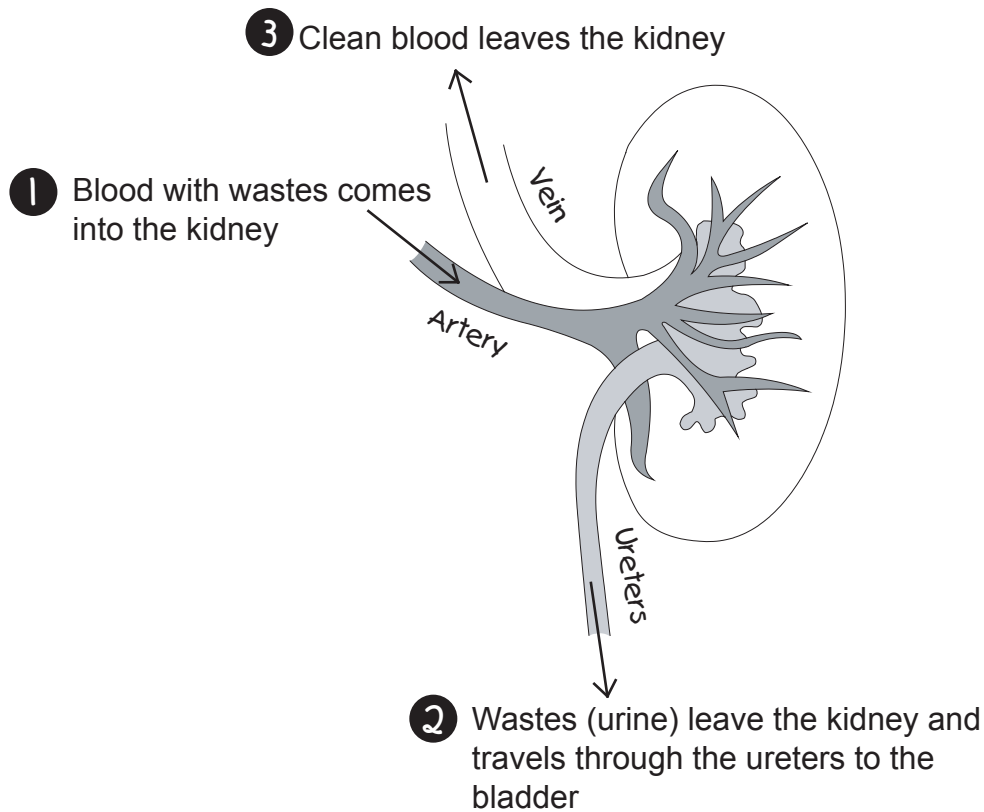
- 4. Small units that help filter blood
- 6. Vital to life

DOWN

- 1. Stores urine
- 2. Waste that is stored in the bladder
- 3. Tubes that transport urine
- 5. Kidneys are like a _____

The Kidneys and Friends!

Kidneys are vital to life. Without them we wouldn't be able to remove the wastes from our blood. When blood with waste enters the kidney, small units called **nephrons** filter your blood. Clean blood is shipped back into the body. The waste and extra water in your blood becomes urine and travels through the ureters to the bladder.



Fill in the blanks in the paragraph below.

The _____ are vital for life. When _____ with wastes enter your kidney, small units called _____ help clean your blood. The _____ and extra water travel through the _____ to the _____. At the same time, the clean, filtered blood _____ the kidney and goes back into the body.