BloodNotes

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New Organs & Tissues for Life Education Portal provides great resource to help talk to kids about organ donation

Patients in Canada continue to struggle with a shortage of lifesaving organs. At any given time, more than 4,000 Canadians are waiting for an organ transplant. In 2020 alone, 276 Canadians died on a waitlist. To solve this problem, many more Canadians need to register their intent to become donors, as well as inform their loved ones of their wishes.

Education is key. Many families find it difficult to talk about organ donation together, but research tells us that even young children can participate in these conversations, as well as initiate them within their families.

This is why Canadian Blood Services has collaborated with Canada's organ and tissue donation and transplant organizations to provide resources to help. The new Organs & Tissues for Life | Education Portal collects and shares age-appropriate, easy-to-access and easy- to-use teaching resources with educators, parents, and students. The goal is to spark interest in, and conversation about, organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

We hope the resources in this portal can help Canadians have important conversations within their own families. And we also hope individuals will tell others about them, including any teachers in their life who could use these resources to bring the topic of organ donation to their students.

Learn more at <u>blood.ca/stories</u>.

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