Nature's plaster

Add colour to reveal the surprising beauty of a blood clot. Platelets trigger an intricate net from a protein called fibrin, which holds blood cells to stop bleeding after a cut.

Inside the body, a blood clot can cause problems, but medicines such as aspirin, warfarin and heparin can help. Add red colours to the red blood cells and different colours to this beautiful net.

The bar at the bottom represents one micrometre (one thousandth of a millimetre). Around 12 red blood cells would fit across the width of a human hair.

