## Handout: No Valve in Vain

## Key Terms:

- prosthetic devices
- biomedical
- vascular system
- valve

- biocompatibility
- veins
- capillaries
- arteries

## Questions to be answered by end of lesson and activity:

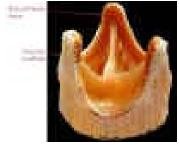
- 1. What is a valve?
- 2. Where have you noticed valves in the world around you?
- 3. Where do you think valves might be found in the human body?
- 4. What might happen if these valves do not function?



Examples of Prosthetic Valves Used to Replace Damaged Heart Valves



Mechanical Caged Ball Prosthetic Valve



Bioprosthetic Pig Valve

## **Making a Valve Procedure:**

- 1. View images of real prosthetic valves passed around by the teacher, and make sure you understand how they work.
- 2. Spend some time examining the given materials and brainstorm a couple of different designs you could create with these materials.
- 3. Choose the best design and experiment with designing a one-way valve that allows water to flow through it one way, but not the other way
- 4. Test your valve with the help of the teacher by timing how long it takes equal amounts of water to flow through in each direction
- 5. If your valve does not work exactly the way you had planned, take a little time to redesign and fix your valve.