



What part of the
body would this
replace?

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Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



WHAT IS THIS?

The hip joint is a ball and socket joint, and is one of the largest joints in the body. The main purpose of the hip joints is to support the upper body.

A hip replacement may become necessary if the hip joint becomes damaged. Common reasons for this can be osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and hip fracture. Osteoarthritis is where the cartilage inside the hip joint wears away this leads to the bones rubbing against each other and wearing away. Rheumatoid arthritis is when the immune system mistakenly attacks the lining of the joint making it painful and stiff.

HOW CAN I USE THIS IN THE CLASSROOM?

The photograph and question could be used as a starter to initiate debate about joints or bones.

Alternatively it could be used with a selection of joint replacement photographs where they match the joint to its place in the body.

