

Fig. S1. Protein sequence comparison of zebrafish Spi-family members and *spi2* WISH in zebrafish embryonic hematopoiesis.

(A) Protein sequence comparison of Spi2 with other *spi*-family members in zebrafish. (B) N-terminal and C-terminal (Ets domain) protein sequence comparison. (C) WISH of *spi2* at 18 hpf.

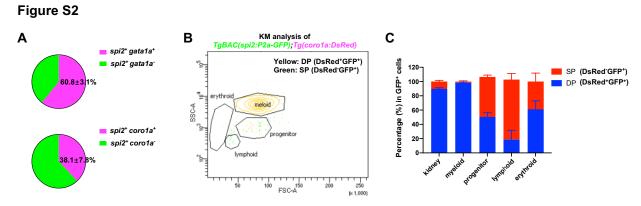


Fig. S2. FACS analysis of whole KM of adult TgBAC(spi2:P2a-GFP); Tg(coro1a:DsRed) zebrafish.

(A) Pie charts showing the quantification percentage (% \pm SD) of $spi2^+$ $gata1a^+$ cells in $spi2^+$ cells (fish n = 5) or $spi2^+coro1a^+$ cells in $spi2^+$ cells (fish n = 10) in CHT at 3 dpf. (B) Representative FACS analysis of the whole KM of adult TgBAC(spi2:P2a-GFP); Tg(coro1a:DsRed) fish. spi2 expressing cells are marked by GFP, whereas leukocytes are labeled by DsRed. (C) Quantification of the percentage of GFP $^+$ DsRed $^+$ in total GFP $^+$ cells in each gate in B. Data are representative of three independent experiments (4 biological replicates) and represented as mean \pm SD.

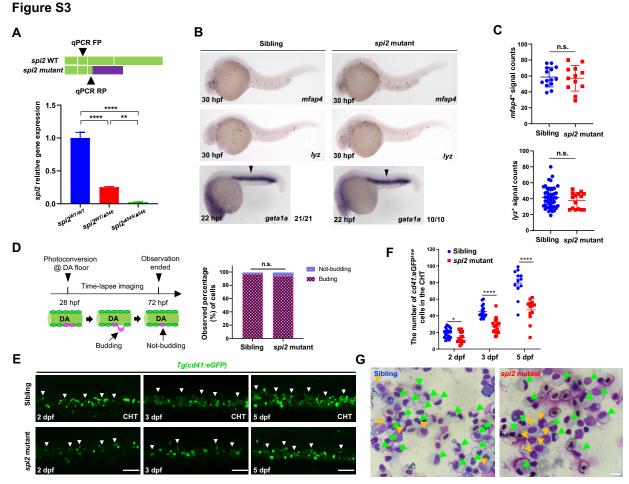


Fig. S3. Primitive hematopoiesis and EHT analysis in spi2 mutants.

(A) qPCR analysis of spi2 N-terminal transcripts in WT, $spi2^{+/\Delta 546}$ heterozygous, and $spi2^{\Delta 546/\Delta 546}$ homozygous embryos (the number of clutches of embryos, n = 3/4/4 for WT, $spi2^{+/\Delta 546}$, and $spi2^{\Delta 546/\Delta 546}$ respectively). (B) WISH of mfap4, lyz, and gata1a in spi2 mutants and siblings at 22 hpf and 30 hpf. (C) Quantification of mfap4 (siblings, n = 14; spi2 mutants, n = 12) and lyz (siblings, n = 46; spi2 mutants, n = 15) positive cells in B. (D) Diagram showing photoconversion and time-lapse imaging strategy to track EHT process and the percentage quantification of the observed cell behaviors in spi2 mutants (embryo n = 5; photoconverted ECs n = 38; budding ECs n = 36) and siblings (embryo n = 6; photoconverted ECs n = 41; budding ECs n = 40). (E) Representative images of Tg(cd41:eGFP) in the CHT at 2 dpf and 3 dpf in spi2 mutants and siblings. (F) Quantification of the $cd41:eGFP^{low}$ cells in the CHT at 2 dpf and 3 dpf in spi2 mutants and siblings in E. 2/3/5 dpf siblings, n = 21/16/12; 2/3/5 dpf spi2 mutants, n = 15/21/13. (G) Representative MGG staining image in spi2 mutants and siblings. Green triangles indicate myeloid cells. Orange triangles indicate myeloblasts. Scale bar, $20 \mu m$. n/N reports the number of embryos with staining pattern in image/total embryos. Data are represented as mean \pm SD, $*p \le 0.05$, $*p \le 0.01$, $****p \le 0.0001$, n.s. not significant (p > 0.05). Student's t test used in A, C, and F. Fisher test used in D.

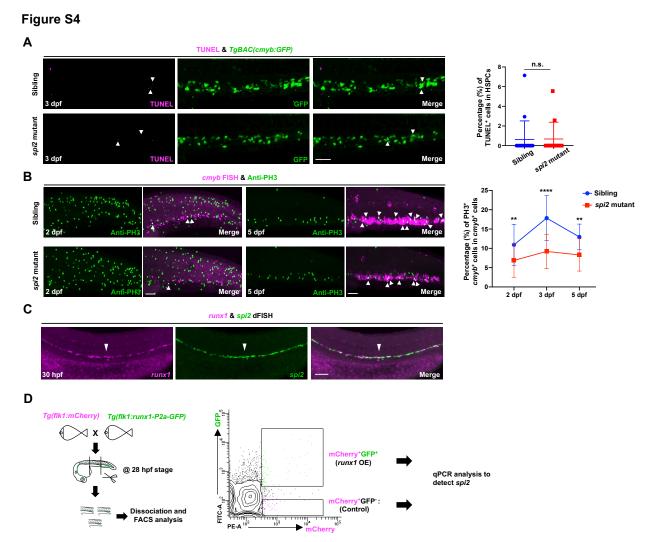
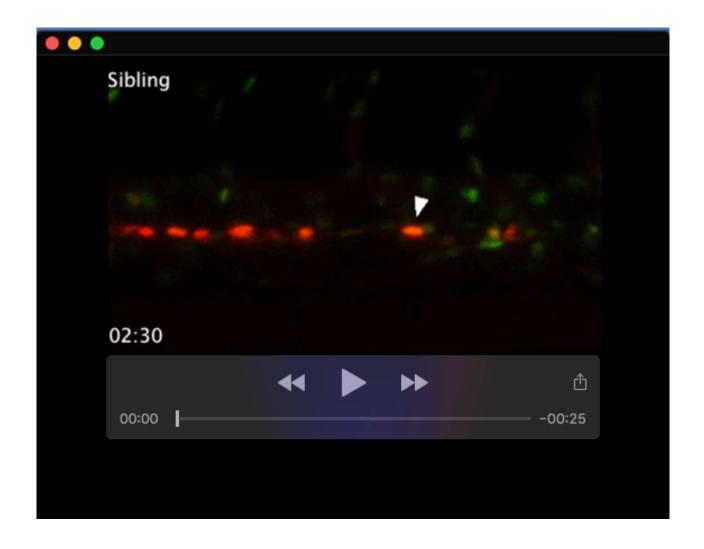


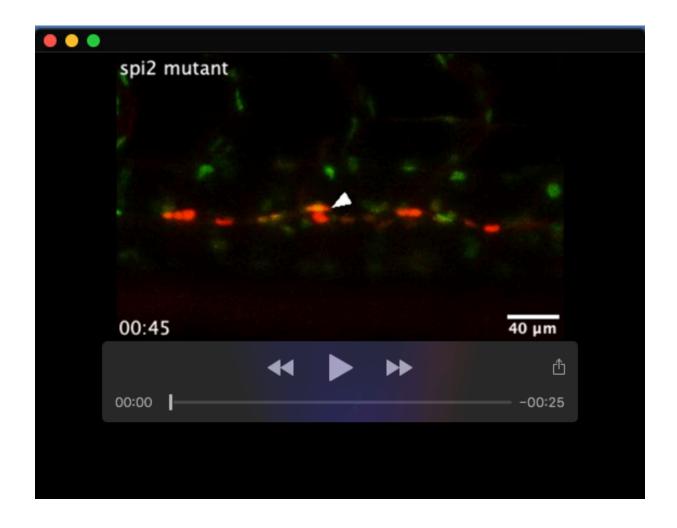
Fig. S4. TUNEL staining of HSPCs and colocalization of spi2 and runx1 in the HECs.

(A) TUNEL analysis (magenta) combined with GFP immunofluorescent staining in the CHT in TgBAC(c-myb:GFP) of spi2 mutants and siblings at 3 dpf and the quantification of the percentage of TUNEL+GFP+GFP+HSPCs in spi2 mutants (n = 12) and siblings (n = 16). (B) Representative images of c-myb FISH (magenta) and anti-PH3 immunofluorescent staining (green) in the CHT in spi2 mutants and siblings at 2 dpf and 5 dpf, and the quantification of the percentage of proliferating c-myb+PH3+ cells in the CHT in spi2 mutants (n = 18, 18, 18) and siblings (n = 54, 35, 18) at 2, 3 and 5 dpf. (C) dFISH of spi2 and runx1 in the AGM in WT fish at 30 hpf. (D) FACS isolation of HECs and cECs from the trunk region of the progenies (28 hpf stage) of Tg(flk1:mCherry) crossing with Tg(flk1:runx1-P2a-GFP) zebrafish. runx1 OE, ECs with runx1 overexpression; Control, ECs without runx1 overexpression. Student's t tests used in A and B. Data are represented as mean \pm SD, n.s. not significant (p > 0.05). Scale bars, 60 μ m.



Movie 1. Time-lapse imaging tracks the EHT process in *spi2* siblings.

Photoconverted HECs are labelled in red color. Lines denote DA roof and floor, and triangles denote an example of observed HEC in a *spi2* sibling embryo.



Movie 2. Time-lapse imaging tracks the EHTprocess in spi2 mutants.

Photoconverted HECs are labelled in red color. Lines denote DA roof and floor, and triangles denote an example of observed HEC in a *spi2* mutant embryo.