

Vocabulary



alveoli tiny sacs in the lungs where oxygen enters the blood and carbon dioxide leaves the blood

Oxygen moves from the alveoli into the bloodstream. Carbon dioxide moves out of the bloodstream into the alveoli.

bronchi two tubes that connect the trachea to the lungs

The singular of *bronchi* is *bronchus*. One bronchus leads to each lung. The bronchi are also called “bronchial tubes.”

cellular respiration the process in cells that releases energy

Sugar is broken down during cellular respiration. Both plants and animals carry out cellular respiration.

diaphragm a sheet of muscle below the lungs

When the diaphragm contracts, your lungs breathe in air. When it relaxes, your lungs breathe out air.

larynx the voice box in the throat

The larynx contains your vocal cords. When the vocal cords vibrate, you make sounds.

lung a respiratory organ that moves air into and out of the body

The lungs bring in air that contains oxygen. They get rid of air that contains carbon dioxide.

photosynthesis the process of using the energy in sunlight to make food from water and carbon dioxide

Plants use carbon dioxide and give off oxygen during photosynthesis. The food that plants make is a kind of sugar called glucose.

trachea the tube that connects the mouth and nose with the bronchi

The trachea is also called the windpipe. The larynx is at the beginning of the trachea.