



**Trachea**

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The tube that carries air from the mouth to the bronchiole

**Bronchus**

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The two tubes that branch off the trachea into each lung

**Bronchiole**

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Smaller branches off the bronchi to carry air to all the alveoli

**Alveoli**

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Small air sacs in the lungs where gaseous exchange occurs





Inhalation

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Breathing in

Exhalation

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Breathing  
out

Oxygen

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The gas moving from  
the alveoli to the  
bloodstream during  
inhalation

Carbon Dioxide

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The gas moving from  
the bloodstream to the  
alveoli for exhalation



## JC SCIENCE – Breathing System



Respiratory  
system elements

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Airways, lungs,  
diaphragm, ribs,  
intercostal muscles

Airways

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Nose, mouth, trachea,  
two bronchi  
(branching into  
bronchioles)

Epiglottis

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Flap of tissue that  
covers the airway  
when swallowing

Larynx  
(voice box)

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Responsible for  
the production of  
sound

Cut dotted horizontal lines. Fold vertical line.





## Diaphragm

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Large sheet of muscle found under the lungs  
- moves during inhaling and exhaling

## Intercostal muscles

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Move the ribs during exhalation and inhalation

## Features of alveoli

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One cell thick, dense capillary network, moist surface

## Gas exchange

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The exchange of carbon dioxide, oxygen and water vapour between the respiratory and circulatory system





Location of gas exchange

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In the alveoli

Capillaries

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Very small blood vessels that are one cell thick

Diffusion

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The movement of molecules from a region of high concentration to a region of low concentration

Asthma

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A condition that narrows the airways, resulting in difficult breathing

