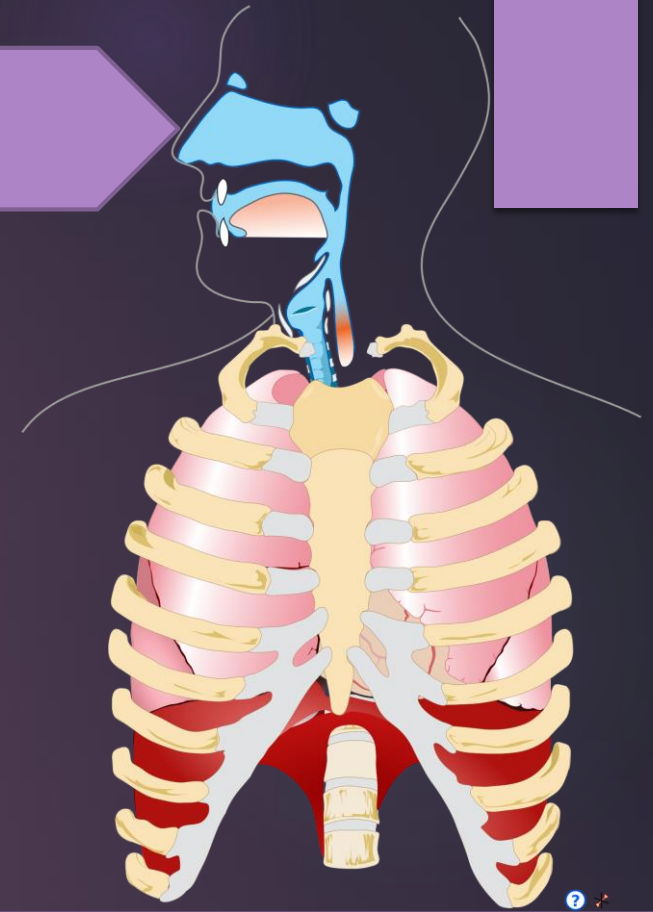
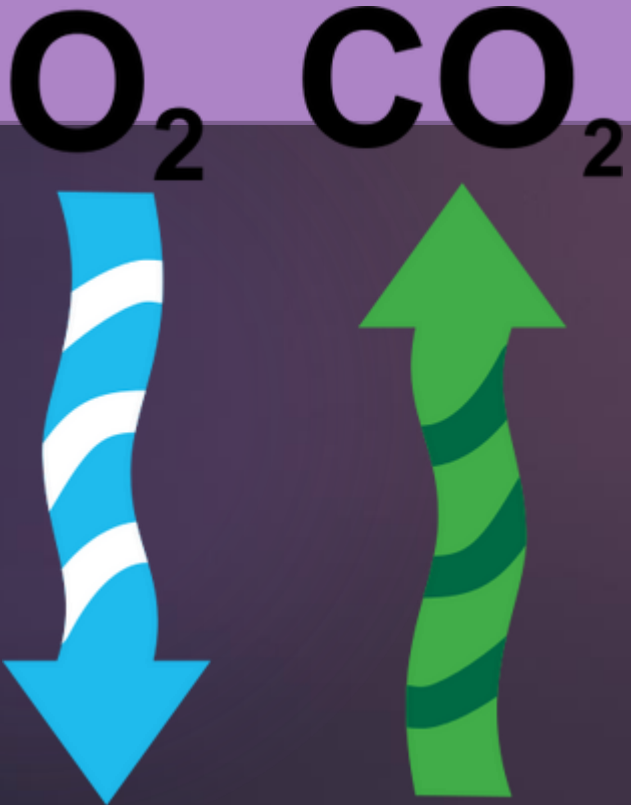


THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

What is the Respiratory system?

It's a biological system that allows us to **breath**, through the process of O_2 and CO_2 Exchange.



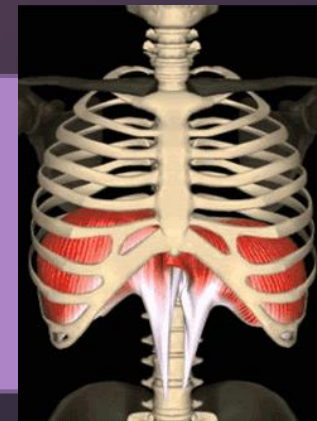
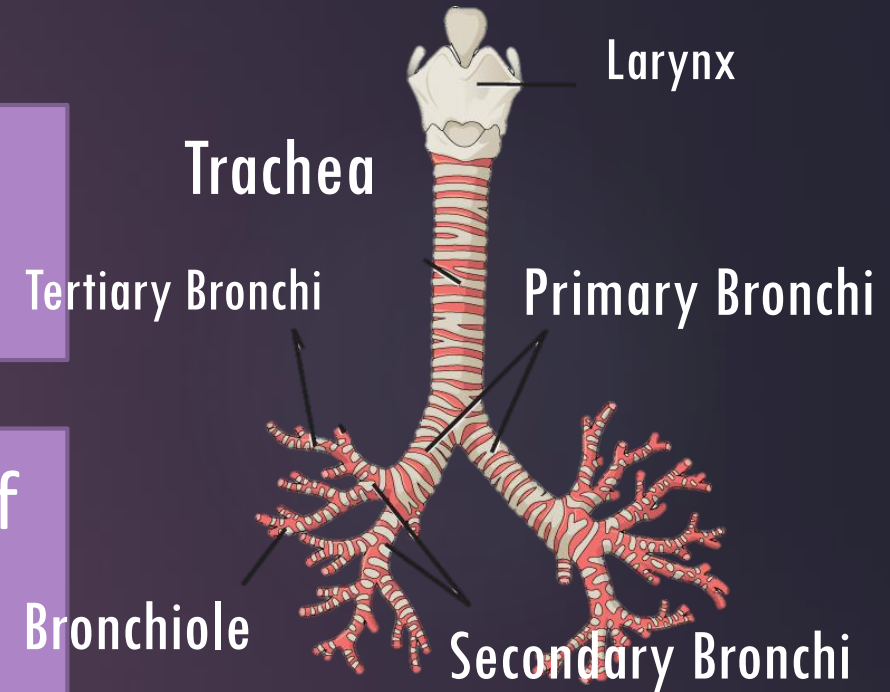
It's formed by the nasal cavities, mouth, trachea, bronchi and lungs.

Trachea, Bronchi and Diaphragm

The trachea **filters** the air we breathe and branches into the bronchi.

The bronchi are two air tubes that branch off of the trachea and **carry air** into the lungs.

The diaphragm is a muscle that **contracts and relaxes** itself giving the lungs a bigger or a shorter space, depending on the situation.



The Lungs

The lungs are the main organs of the **respiratory system**. In the lungs oxygen is taken into the body and carbon dioxide is breathed out.

We have 2 lungs, together they weigh 2.9 pounds. Our left lung contains a small place designed to accommodate the heart called “**cardiac notch**”.



Other Functions of the Respiratory System



The movement of gas through the **larynx, pharynx and mouth** allows humans to speak, or phonate.

Most of the respiratory system is lined with mucous membranes that contain mucosal-associated lymphoid tissue, which produces **white blood cells**.



What causes hiccups?

Hiccups are the **sudden movements** of the diaphragm. It is involuntary –as you well know- and there are many causes for it.

Hiccups only last for a few minutes and there are no recognized remedies to make them stop aside from doctor-administered medicine.

