#### EXPLORING SCIENCE WORKING SCIENTIFICALLY

## Types of respiration

All living cells **respire** to release energy. Organisms need energy for everything they do (for example, making new substances, moving).

Aerobic respiration is a series of chemical reactions that can be summarised as:

glucose + oxygen  $\rightarrow$  carbon dioxide + water

Energy is released (but is not a chemical substance and so is not shown in the word equation).

Carbon dioxide can be detected using:

- **limewater** (which it turns cloudy)
- an indicator (such as hydrogen carbonate) because it is acidic.

**Anaerobic respiration** does not require oxygen. In humans it is used to release energy from glucose when more energy is needed than can be supplied by aerobic respiration (for example, during strenuous exercise).

glucose  $\rightarrow$  lactic acid

Anaerobic respiration causes muscles to tire quickly and so cannot be used for extended periods. A lot of the lactic acid travels from the muscles to the liver, where it is converted back to glucose. Anaerobic respiration releases less energy than aerobic respiration.

After strenuous exercise, the body needs extra oxygen. This excess post-exercise oxygen consumption (EPOC) (or 'oxygen debt') replaces oxygen lost from oxygen stores (in the blood and in muscles) and provides oxygen for increased levels of aerobic respiration (for example, to provide energy for removing lactic acid, for faster breathing, for faster heart rate).



stomata in leaves (plants)

# Gas exchange

Different organisms use different organs for **gas exchange** (swapping one gas for another):

• gills (e.g. fish)





## Ventilation and breathing

When you exercise, your **breathing rate** (number of breaths in one minute) and your **pulse rate** (number of times your heart beats in one minute) increase. This is because your cells need more oxygen and glucose for respiration.

**Breathing** is the movement of muscles in the **diaphragm** and attached to the ribs. These movements change the volume of the chest.



Breathing in (inhalation):

- Diaphragm contracts and moves downwards.
- Rib muscles contract and lift ribs up and outwards.
- Volume of the chest increases.
- Lungs expand.
- Pressure in lungs is reduced.
- Pressure outside is now higher than inside the lungs, so air flows into the lungs.



Breathing in (**exhalation**):

- Diaphragm relaxes and moves upwards.
- Rib muscles relax and move ribs down and inwards.
- Volume of the chest decreases.
- Lungs get smaller.
- Pressure in lungs is increased.
- Pressure inside the lungs is now higher than outside, so air flows out of the lungs.

Breathing **ventilates** the lungs. **Ventilation** is the movement of air into and out of the lungs.

## Smoking

The chemicals in cigarette smoke are harmful.

Found in cigarette smoke:	Harm it causes:
nicotine	makes arteries narrower, causes heart disease
tar	can cause cancer, coats lungs reducing surface area, can cause alveoli to break apart ( <b>emphysema</b> )
carbon monoxide	stops red blood cells carrying so much oxygen
high temperature of smoke	stops cilia working so lungs are not cleaned and mucus collects

#### Means, estimates and ranges

range = highest value – lowest value (with smaller ranges you can be more certain of your results)

mean =  $\frac{\text{total of all values}}{\text{number of values}}$ 

Mean can be used to **estimate** a true value from repeated readings.