

The Respiratory System

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When you breathe in, your diaphragm lowers pulling air from your mouth or nose into your lungs. The air goes through the pharynx, past the epiglottis, through the larynx (voice box) and down your trachea. From the trachea air goes into the lungs via two tubes called bronchi, then into smaller and smaller tubes called bronchioles. Finally the air reaches tiny sacs called alveoli. In the alveoli carbon dioxide from the blood is exchanged with oxygen from the air. Once gas exchange has occurred the diaphragm rises, expelling air from your lungs.

