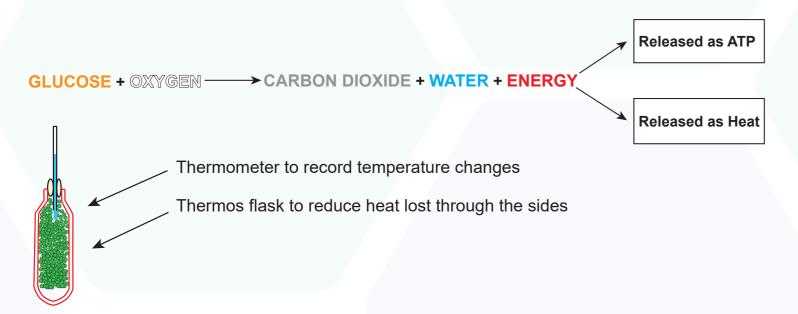
GCSE Biology 1.2 Respiration and the respiratory system knowledge organiser



Aerobic respiration

A series of enzyme-controlled chemical reactions in the mitochondria of cells. Blood carries glucose and oxygen to the cells, they diffuse in and react releasing the stored energy from the glucose.

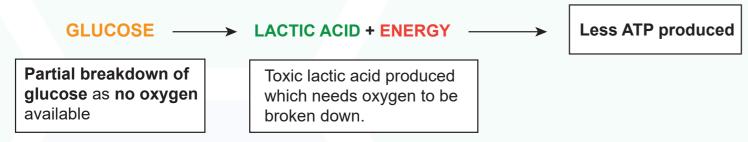


Investigating respiration in germinating peas

- Peas respire releasing heat and recorded temperature goes up.
- Peas are boiled (respiratory enzymes are denatured) no respiration by peas but recorded temperature still increases slightly as peas are covered in respiring microbes.
- Boiled and disinfected peas. Temperature does not increase as no respiration occurs.

Anaerobic respiration

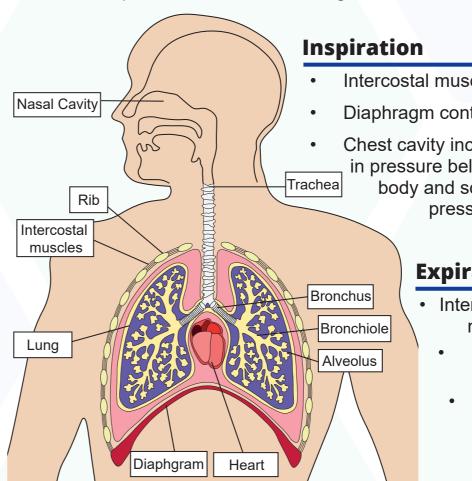
A shorter series of enzyme-controlled reactions that partially breaks down glucose releasing only some of the energy stored. This reaction can occur in the absence of oxygen.



The amount of oxygen needed to remove the toxic lactic acid is the **oxygen debt** and must be paid back when oxygen is readily available.

The respiratory system

The function of the respiratory system is to obtain sufficient oxygen for respiration and to remove the equivalent volume of waste gases carbon dioxide and water.



- Intercostal muscles contract lifting ribs up and out
- Diaphragm contracts and flattens
- Chest cavity increases in volume and decreases in pressure below the pressure outside the body and so air is sucked in to equalize the pressure.

Expiration

- Intercostal muscles relax and ribs move down and in.
 - Diaphragm relaxes and domes
 - Chest cavity decreases in volume and increases in pressure, air is forced out.

Gas exchange

The alveoli are adapted for gas exchange by:

- Good blood supply
- Large surface area
- Thin walls
- Moist lining

As the red blood cells and plasma in the blood capillary flow around the alveolus oxygen diffuses into the capillary and carbon dioxide diffuses out.

