## **Student Activity**

# **LESSON 1: MAPPING PULMO PARK**

**Activity 1A:** Think About It: Respiratory Structure and Function





**DIRECTIONS:** Read the Student Background "Think About It" material. Consider what you now know about the respiratory system as you read and respond to each *Think About It*.

#### 1. Think About It: Structure and Function

- a. How does the design (structure) of the Pulmonary System allow it to do its job (function)?
- **b.** What is meant by a "passive" system?
- **c.** What are the advantages and/or disadvantages to a passive system?

### 2. Think About It: Structure and Purpose

- a. How does structure protect the delicate organs of the Pulmonary and Circulatory Systems?
- **b.** What other structures protect body organs and how is their shape related to the organs they protect?

### 3. Think About It: Levels of Organization

- **a.** Describe the levels of organization in the human body.
- **b.** Why is an organ level more complex than a tissue level?
- **c.** What are the advantages and/or disadvantages to the organization level of the human body?

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## 4. Think About It: Making Connections

- a. How do the Circulatory and Pulmonary Systems work together?
- **b.** Why are they considered separate systems?
- **c.** What would happen if either of these systems did not work with the other?

## 5. Think About It: Keep It Clean

- **a.** How does the Pulmonary System function as a cleaning system?
- **b.** What structures and systems collaborate to keep the system clean?
- **c.** Why is it necessary to keep the pulmonary system clean? What is it that the pulmonary system needs to be protected from and why?

#### 6. Think About It: Location and Purpose

- a. What is the purpose of the epiglottis?
- **b.** How does the location of the epiglottis relate to its purpose?
- c. What would happen if it were located higher up or below its current position?
- **d.** What happens when the epiglottis doesn't work the way it should?
- **e.** Have you ever experienced this and if so, described what happened.

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#### 7. Think About It: Trachea Design

- **a.** How does the design of the trachea contribute to its function?
- **b.** What are the advantages/disadvantages of the trachea's design?

#### 8. Think About It: Lung Structure

- **a.** Efficient structures are often repeated in nature. Compare the function of branches in a tree to branches within the lung.
- **b.** What are the advantages to a branching respiratory system?
- c. What are the components of the respiratory tree and what is their function?
- **d.** What impact would there be if the number of branches were cut in half?

### 9. Think About It: Air Exchange

- **a.** What does "air exchange" mean?
- **b.** How does the structure of the alveoli maximize air exchange?
- **c.** What is the relationship between alveoli and the circulatory system?

#### 10. Think About It: Diaphragm Movement

- a. How does the diaphragm moving up (relaxing) and down (contracting) cause us to breathe?
- **b.** The diaphragm is a muscle. Muscle movement requires energy, yet the act of breathing is considered a passive function. How is this possible?