

MAKING A MODEL OF THE LUNGS



The lungs are like bags that fill with air, then empty. We can see how the lungs work by creating a simple model.

For this model, you will need:

- An empty hard plastic bottle (500-600ml)
- Two biodegradable balloons
- Scissors & craft knife

Step 1

Remove the lid and cut the bottom off the plastic bottle.

This bottle will be the ribcage.



Step 2

Hang one balloon inside the top of the plastic bottle and stretch the neck of the balloon over the neck of the bottle.

This balloon represents the bag-like lungs.



Step 3

Cut off the top third of the second balloon. Make a knot in the neck of this balloon.



Step 4

Stretch the large, open end of this balloon over the wide opening at the bottom of the bottle.

This balloon at the bottom of the bottle is like the diaphragm.



Step 5

Holding the bottom balloon in place, gently pull the knotted end down, away from the bottle.

As you pull this balloon down, the other balloon, hanging from the neck of the bottle, will fill with air.

When you gently release the knot, the balloon at the top of the bottle will empty of air.

