


Gas Exchange

CONNECTIONS: Life Challenges and Solutions in Plants and Animals

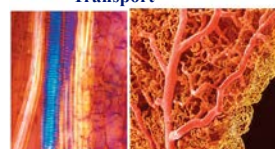
Absorption



The root hairs of plants increase the surface area available for absorption.

The villi (projections) that line the intestines of animals increase the surface area available for absorption.

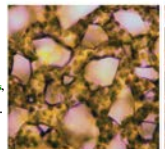
Transport



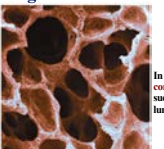
Plants transport water, minerals, and sugars through vessels.

Animals pump circulatory fluid through vessels.

Gas Exchange



In plants, highly convoluted surfaces, such as the spongy mesophyll of leaves.



In animals, highly convoluted surfaces, such as the alveoli of lungs.

Figure 40.22

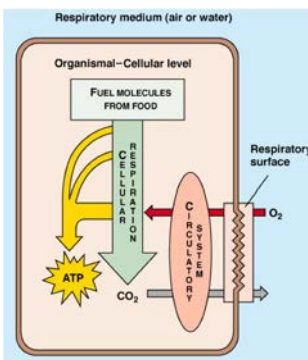


WHY RESPIRE?

- Mitochondria need O₂ to make ATP.

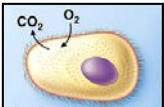
$$C_6H_{12}O_6 + O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + H_2O + \text{Energy (ATP)}$$

- CO₂ by-product must be removed



“Organismal Respiration”
vs.
“Cellular Respiration”

- External gas exchange:
 - environmental gases / tissues
- Internal gas exchange
 - tissues / tissues
 - Cell membranes are permeable to **simple diffusion** of **dissolved** O₂ and CO₂
- Cellular Respiration: using the oxygen to drive ATP production
 - The more cells (more body mass), the more O₂ needed (**oxygen demand**)



SIZE MATTERS

- Small organisms have high s/v ratios & use cutaneous exchange (protozoans, sponges, cnidarians, flatworms)
- Ciliated epidermal & gastrodermal tissues keep fresh water flowing over surface

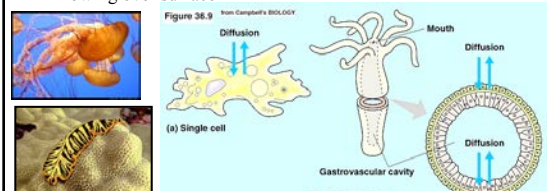



Figure 36.9 from Campbell's BIOLOGY

- Surfaces must be moist for exchange to occur!

How do animals get enough O₂?

- ❖ **Size matters!**
- ❖ **So does activity level.**
- ❖ **Larger, faster animals need tricks to speed up exchange of gases between environment & tissues.**



Thunnus thunnus

Diffusion of Dissolved Gases

• **FICK'S LAW**

- GILLS vs. LUNGS
- AQUATIC RESPIRATION
- TERRESTRIAL RESPIRATION
- RESPIRATORY PIGMENTS

FICK'S LAW Adolf Fick, 1858

Fick's law of diffusion of a gas across a fluid membrane:

$$\text{Rate of diffusion} = KA(P_2 - P_1)/D$$

Wherein:

- K = a *temperature-dependent* diffusion constant.
- A = the surface area available for diffusion.
- (P₂-P₁) = The difference in concentration (partial pressure) of the gas across the membrane.
- D = the distance over which diffusion must take place.

FICK'S LAW

Fick's law of diffusion of a gas across a fluid membrane:

$$\text{Rate of diffusion} = KA(P_2 - P_1)/D$$

Therefore, since:

- The diffusion is of **dissolved** gases across a **fluid** membrane
- The respiratory surface must stay wet!

FICK'S LAW

Fick's law of diffusion of a gas across a fluid membrane:

$$\text{Rate of diffusion} = KA(P_2 - P_1)/D$$

Therefore, since:

- K = a *temperature-dependent* diffusion constant.
- Temperature is important!

FICK'S LAW

Fick's law of diffusion of a gas across a fluid membrane:

$$\text{Rate of diffusion} = KA(P_2 - P_1)/D$$

Therefore, since:

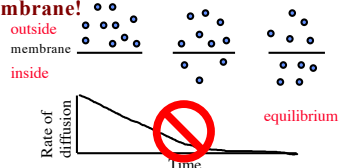
- A = the surface area available for diffusion.
- D = the distance over which diffusion must take place.
- How can gas exchange rate be increased?
- Increase surface area and decrease thickness of respiratory surfaces as much as possible!

FICK'S LAW

$$\text{Rate of diffusion} = KA(P_2 - P_1)/D$$

Therefore, since:

- (P₂-P₁) = The difference in concentration (partial pressure) of the gas across the membrane.
- **Continually replenish the respiratory fluid (ventilation system) and body fluid (circulatory system) to maintain disequilibrium across the membrane!**



Gas Concentrations

Concentration of a gas in a mixture measured as partial pressure
= % of total gas x total gas pressure

Air: composition & partial pressures

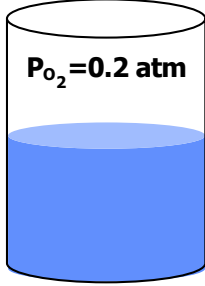
Dry air at 1 atm total pressure (sea level)

- ❖ **N₂: 78%; P_{N₂} = 0.78 atm**
- ❖ **O₂: 21%; P_{O₂} = 0.21 atm**
- ❖ **CO₂: 0.03%; P_{CO₂} = 0.0003 atm**
- ❖ **Other gases bring total up to 1 atmosphere**

Dissolved Gas Concentrations

Still measured as partial pressure
= amount of that gas dissolved in water at equilibrium with a gas having that partial pressure (at STP)

P_{O₂} = 0.2 atm

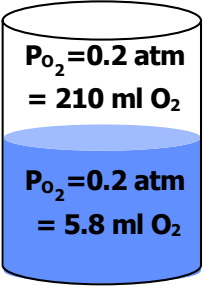


- ❖ **cylinder contains 1 liter water and 1 liter air (total 1 atm at 25° C)**
- ❖ **Oxygen diffuses between air & water.**

Dissolved Gas Concentrations

Still measured as partial pressure
= amount of that gas dissolved in water at equilibrium with a gas having that partial pressure (at STP)

P_{O₂} = 0.2 atm
= 210 ml O₂



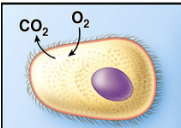
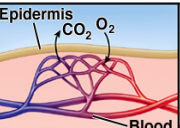
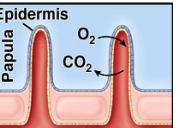
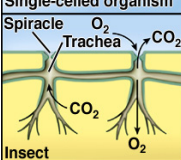
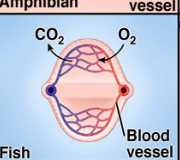
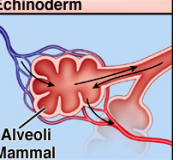
P_{O₂} = 0.2 atm
= 5.8 ml O₂

- ❖ **The air & water are at equilibrium ∴ they have the same P_{O₂}**
- ❖ **The amount of a gas dissolved in water depends on its solubility.**
- **↑ temp → ↓ gas solubility**

RESPIRATION

- FICK'S LAW
- **GILLS vs. LUNGS**
- AQUATIC RESPIRATION
- TERRESTRIAL RESPIRATION
- RESPIRATORY PIGMENTS

Respiratory Surfaces

 <p>Single-celled organism</p>	 <p>Amphibian</p>	 <p>Echinoderm</p>
 <p>Insect</p>	 <p>Fish</p>	 <p>Mammal</p>

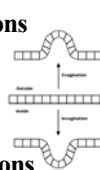
↑ surface area / ↓ distance between environment and tissues

GILLS vs. LUNGS

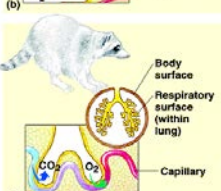
Figure 38.18 b,d Respiratory organs from Campbell BIOLOGY, Fourth Edition

Maximizing the respiratory surfaces:

– **Evaginations (gills)**



– **Invaginations (lungs)**



Terrestrial vs. Aquatic Respiration

	5° C	35° C	% metabolism for ventilation
% O ₂ in air	21%	21%	1%
% O ₂ in water	0.9%	0.5%	20% *
O ₂ in air/water	25x	40x	

* Water is ~800x more dense & 50x more viscous than air!

Terrestrial vs. Aquatic Respiration — the Trade-offs

•Hence, in low-oxygen environments (i.e., in water), need large, wet respiratory surface exposed to the respiratory medium.

•Gills!

•But, in dry environments (i.e., in air), large, wet respiratory surface would dry out and result in excessive water loss.

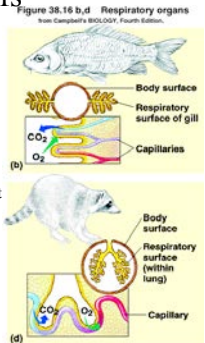
•No gills!

•In dry, high-oxygen environments (i.e., in air), contact of the wet respiratory surface with the respiratory medium can be restricted to protect from drying out.

•Lungs!

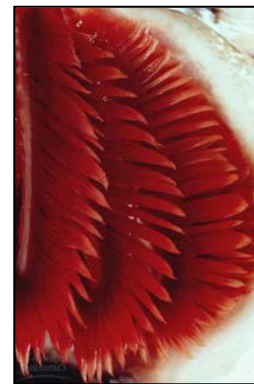
•But, in viscous, low-oxygen environments (i.e., in water), restricted contact provides inadequate gas exchange.

•No lungs!



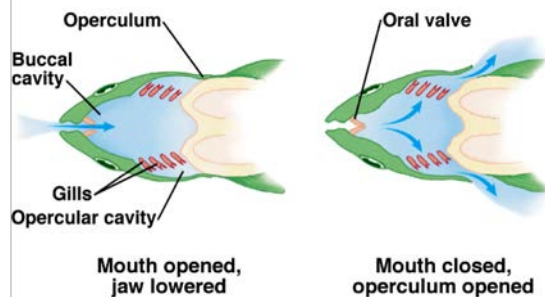
Aquatic Respiration Structures

Animal	Gill type	Ventilation
Fish	Pharyngeal gills	Buccal pumping
Polychaete worm	Parapodia	Gill movement
Aquatic mollusk	Ctenidia	Cilia
Echinoderm	Dermal branchia	Cilia
Crustacean	Gills	Gill bailer
Horseshoe crab	Book gills	Gill movement



Fish usually need more oxygen than invertebrates; they have more gill area than most invertebrates.

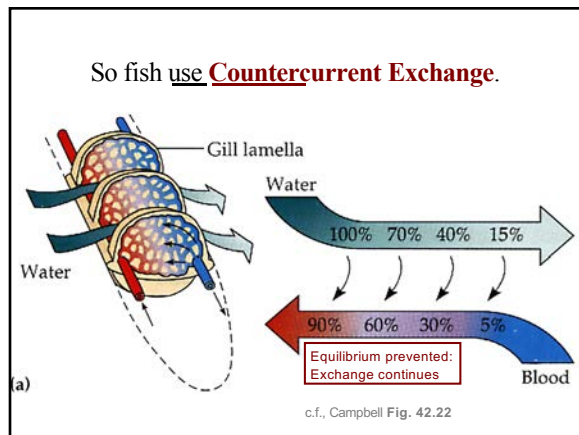
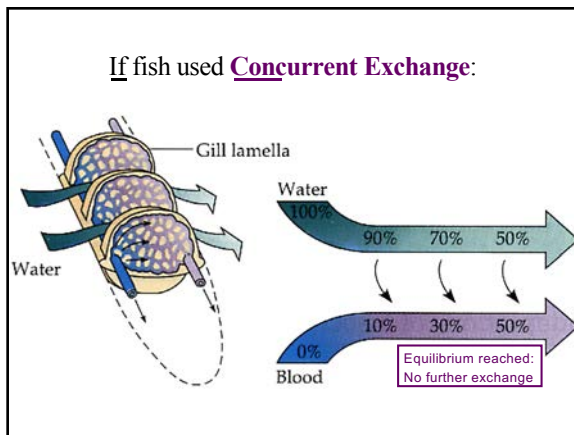
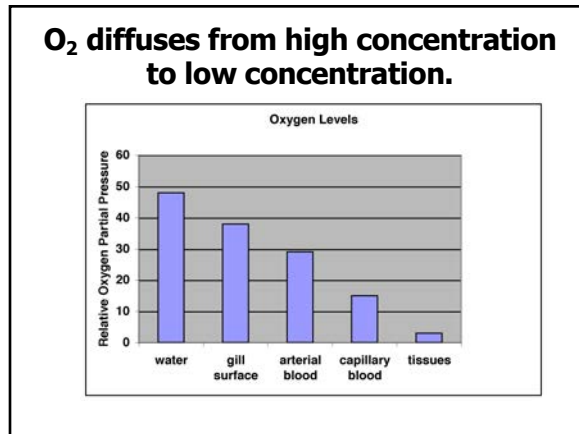
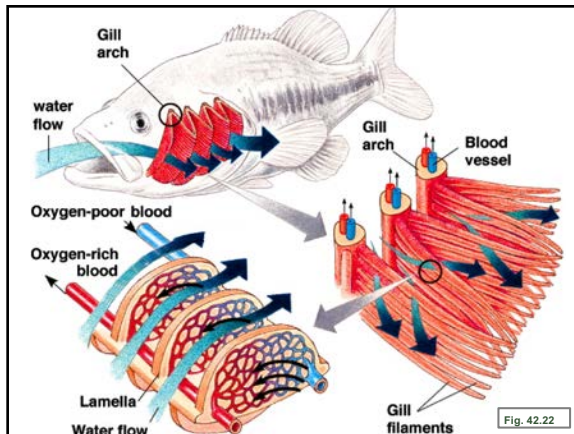
Buccal pumping 1-way flow of water across gills



Fish ventilation

- ❖ Fish use energy to pump water across gills (ventilation).
- ❖ At low speed, buccal pumping is used.
- ❖ At higher speed, ram ventilation (swimming with mouth & operculum open) is more efficient (but still costs energy).

Gas Exchange



More active fish have bigger gills.
index of relative gill surface area/body mass

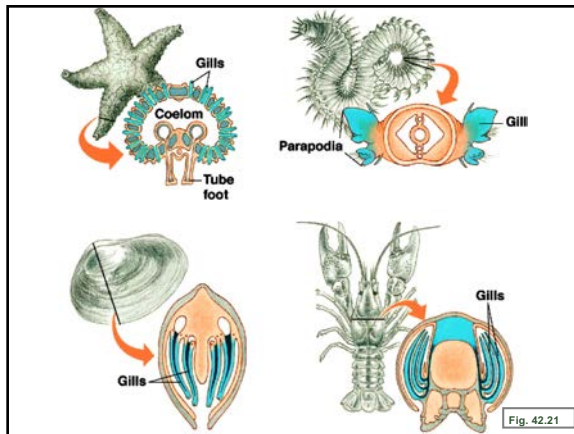
Mackerel: 2551

Toadfish: 137

Aquatic Respiration Structures

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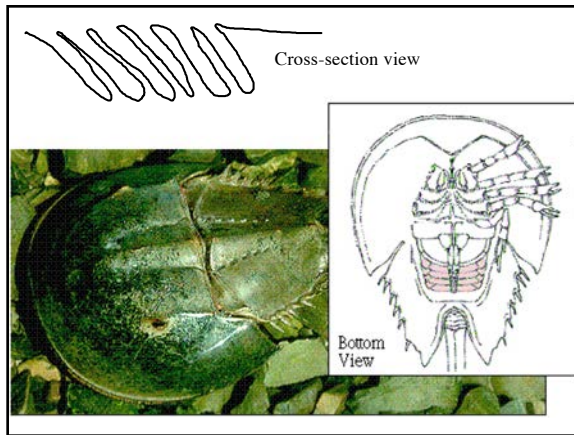
Gas Exchange



Counter-current exchange in mollusc ctenidia

- Flattened filaments attached on alternate sides to a longitudinal axis
- Water flow through chamber generated by cilia counter to blood flow direction of gills

Diagram illustrating counter-current exchange in mollusc ctenidia. Labels include: Abfrontal cilia, Axis, Lateral cilia, Afferent vessel, Efferent vessel, Skeletal rod, Gill filament, Membranous gill, Mantle cavity, Shell, Mantle, Foot, and Water flow.



ARACHNIDS & BOOK LUNGS

- Page-like structure
- In larger species it's supplemented by a tracheal system

Photograph of a scorpion and a diagram of a book lung. Labels include: Cross section of book lung, Blood flow, and Air flow.

Tracheal Systems of Terrestrial Arthropods

Diagram of a grasshopper showing tracheae, air sacs, and spiracles. Labels include: Air sacs, Tracheae, Spiracle, Body cell, Tracheole, Air sac, Trachea, Body wall, and Spiracle.

- Ventilated by air sacs in larger or more active species.

tick

Fig. 42.23

Terrestrial Arthropod Tracheal System

– Insects, millipedes, onychophorans, and big arachnids.

Photograph of a silkworm and a diagram of a cockroach tracheal system. Labels include: Spiracle (w/ filters), Trachea (lined w/ taenidia), Tracheole, silkworm spiracle & tracheae, and cockroach trachea.

Flight muscles have very high aerobic demand
 —Tracheoles end near mitochondria in each cell.

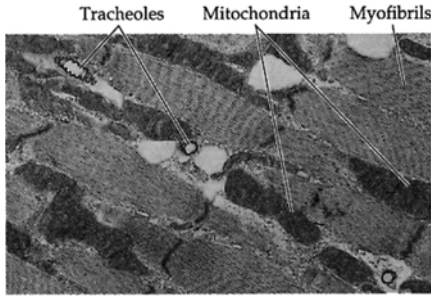
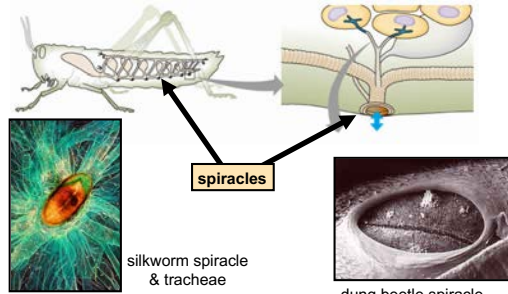


Fig. 42.23c

2.5 μm

Insect gas exchange:

❖ Spiracles can close to limit water loss.



Terrestrial snails & slugs have:

- lost their ctenidia from mantle cavity
- vascularized mantle cavity acting as lung



Vertebrate Lungs

• Amphibians & Reptiles:

- Septate sac



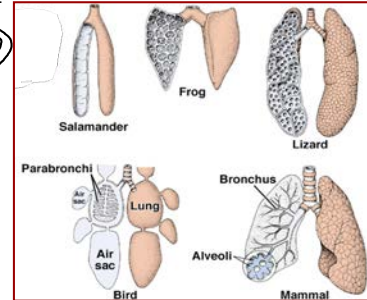
• Mammals:

- Complex, w/alveoli



• Birds:

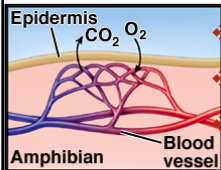
- Elaborate flow-through system w/ parabronchi



Lungless salamanders



❖ Gas exchange through skin; blood gets oxygenated when it flows near skin.



- ❖ Small, slender bodies.
- ❖ They dry out easily.
- ❖ Cold bodies; don't use much O₂.

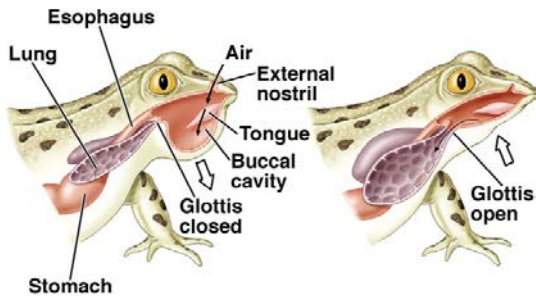
Amphibians with lungs



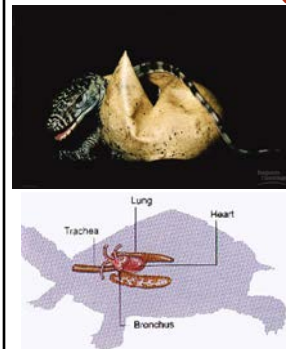
❖ Frogs and larger salamanders do gas exchange through skin and lungs.

❖ Usually most O₂ is absorbed in the lungs, but most CO₂ is eliminated through the skin.

Frogs: positive-pressure breathing forces air into lungs



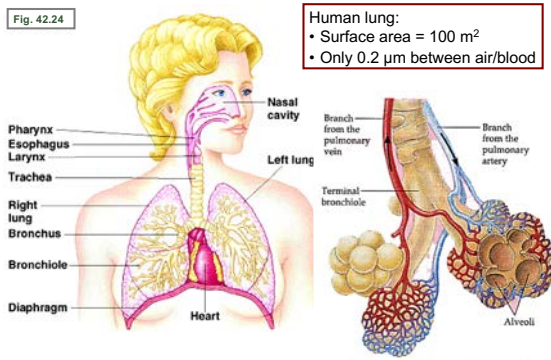
Reptiles



- Reptiles have impermeable skin; gas exchange happens in lungs.
- Most have fairly low oxygen requirements. Breathing is not continuous.
- Body temperature is usually near ambient; this keeps water loss low compared to warm-bodied animals.

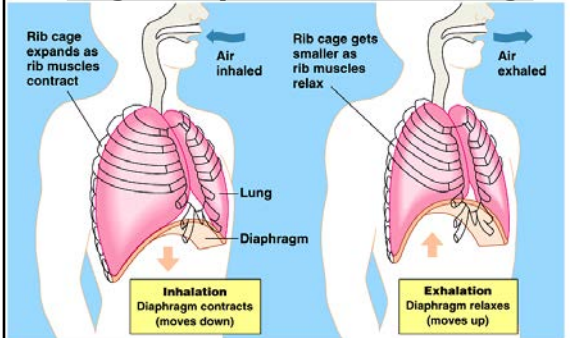
Mammalian Lung — 300 Million Alveoli

Fig. 42.24



Human lung:
 • Surface area = 100 m²
 • Only 0.2 μm between air/blood

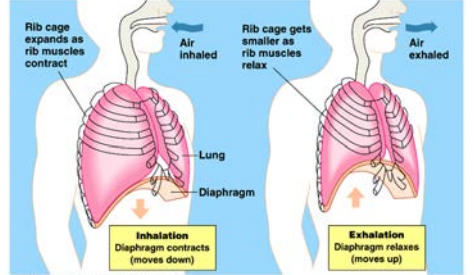
Negative pressure breathing



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Fig. 42.27

Negative pressure breathing



- Dead space: 150 ml
- Tidal volume (resting): 500 ml
- Tidal volume (exercise): 3000 ml

O₂ & CO₂ diffuse from high concentration to low concentration.

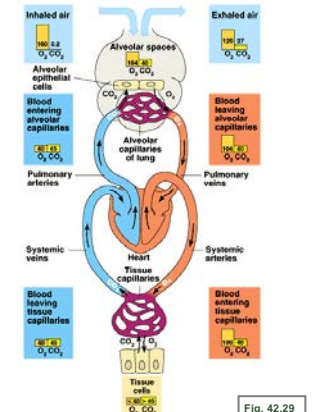
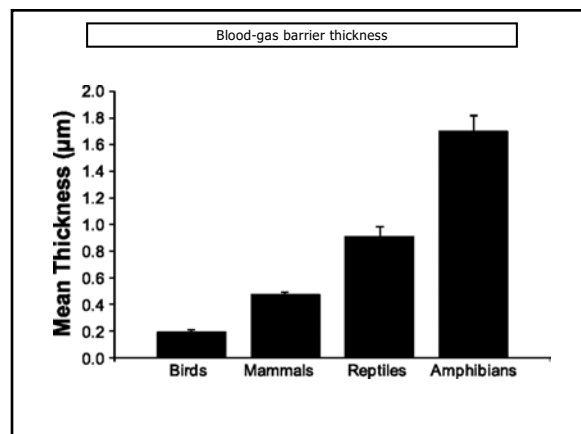
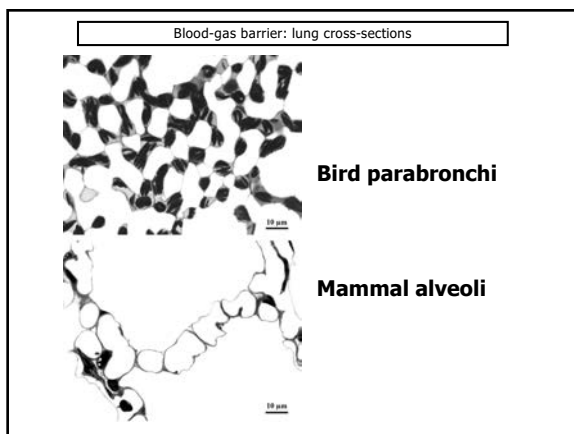
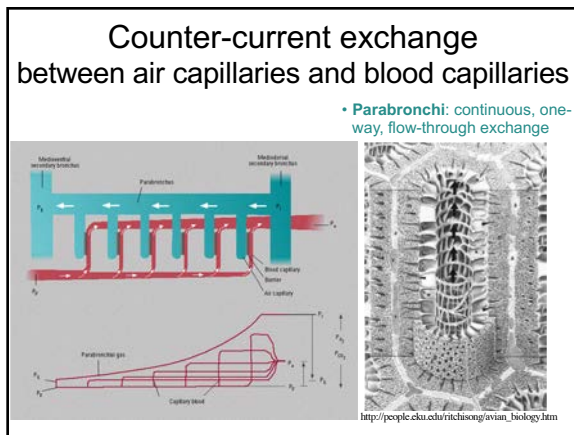
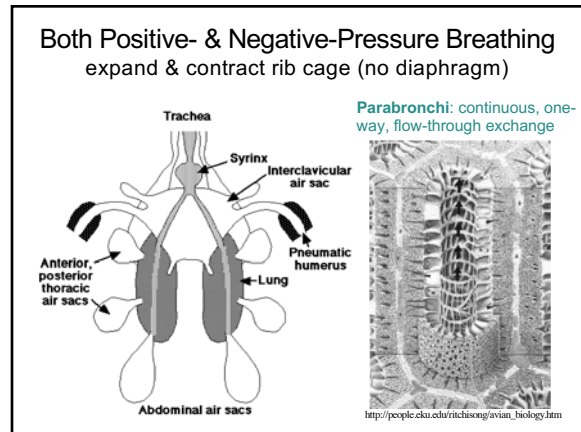
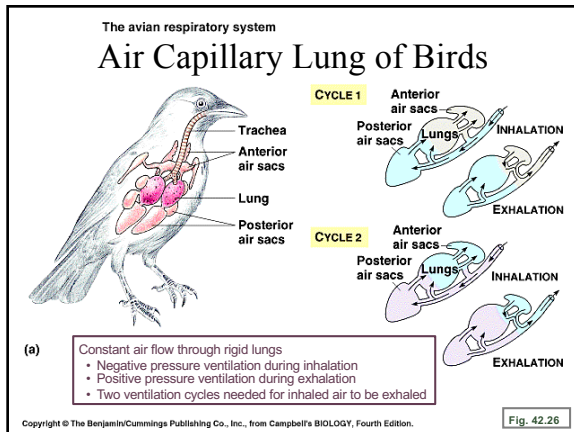


Fig. 42.29

Gas Exchange



Diffusion & exchange is of dissolved O₂ only!

How much O₂ can be carried dissolved in blood fluids alone?

Terrestrial vs. Aquatic Respiration

O ₂ Level	5°C	35°C	% Metab. for Resp.
Air	21%	21%	1%
Water	0.9%	0.5%	20%

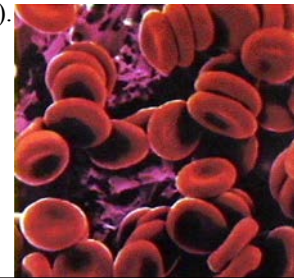
O₂ in air vs. water 25X 40X

RESPIRATION

- FICK'S LAW
- GILLS vs. LUNGS
- AQUATIC RESPIRATION
- TERRESTRIAL RESPIRATION
- **RESPIRATORY PIGMENTS**

Respiratory Pigments Carry O₂

- Proteins with a metal core, giving it color.
- E.g., Hemoglobin (Hb).
- Pigment protein packed in blood cells (RBCs) reduce viscosity of high-protein solution.

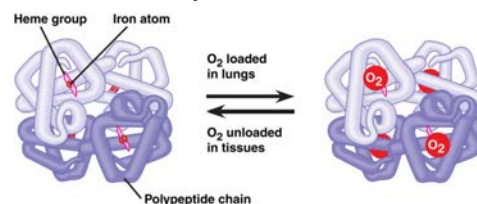


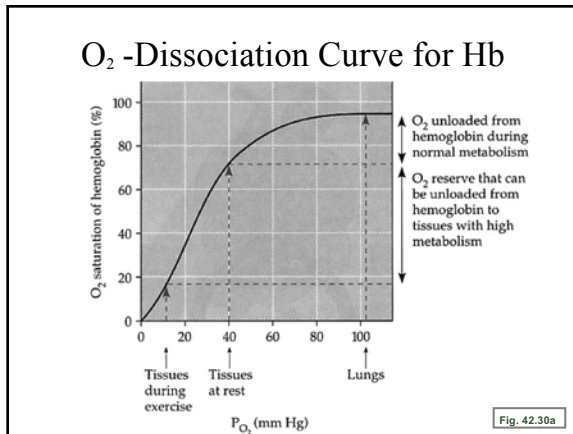
Other Respiratory Pigments

Name	Metal	Color	Animal
Chlorocruorin	Iron	Green	Sedentary Polychaetes
Hemocyanin	Copper	Blue	Arthropods and Molluscs
Myoglobin	Iron	Red	Marine Mammals, Waterfowl

Hb affinity for O₂ shifts w/ blood oxygen content

- Hemoglobin has
 - high O₂ affinity when P_{O₂} is high
 - low O₂ affinity when P_{O₂} is low





Blood temperature & pH also influence hemoglobin's affinity for O₂.

The Bohr Shift

- CO₂ dissolved into blood forms carbonic acid, lowering pH.
- Gives O₂ up easier when pH is lower at cells (more carbonic and lactic acid present)
- Grabs O₂ at alveoli where CO₂ levels are lowest due to exhalation

