LAB: Lung Capacity

date _____

Last Name _____, First _____ per___

Introduction

The human **lung** is an amazing organ. Fully inflated it would take up a volume of a 2 liter bottle. But that's not the amazing part. Your lungs are made up of over 3 million tiny air sacs called **alveoli**. This amazing structure gives the lungs a much greater surface area than if the lungs were made up of just one large air sac. If each air sac were opened and laid out flat, then the tissue would cover the entire floor of this classroom. The advantage of this structure is that your lungs can perform **gas exchange** quicker. That is; your lungs can absorb more oxygen faster and release CO_2 faster.

Another aspect of your lungs is the amount of air they can hold. This is referred to as **lung capacity**. Not everyone has the same lung capacity. Think of as many factors that can affect lung capacity.

1. Write down your ideas in the space below.

2. Watch the demonstration from your teacher on how to measure your own lung capacity. Draw a sketch of the set up.

3. Take turns with your science team mates, measure your lung capacities and record it in the table below.

Name	Lung Capacity (liters)