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## Biomedical Engineering and the Human Body (unit)

**Curricular Unit Title** Biomedical Engineering and the Human Body

**Header** Insert image 1 here



**Image 1**

**Image file:** cub\_biomed\_unit\_image1web.jpg

**ADA Description:** Five images: man blowing into a spirometer, assorted pills and tablets, man taking a step with his artificial leg, black and white sonogram shows shape of fetus, drawing of DNA double helix.

**Source/Rights:** (left to right) Medline Plus, US National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health; Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; Walther Thill, U.S. Department of Veteran's Administration; Jim Gathany, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; President's DNA Initiative, US Department of Justice

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/imagepages/1142.htm>

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/images/VariousPills.jpg>

[https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhvPortal/anonymous.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_nfto=false&\\_pageLabel=spotlightArchive&contentPage=spotlight/spotlight\\_prosthetics.html](https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhvPortal/anonymous.portal?_nfpb=true&_nfto=false&_pageLabel=spotlightArchive&contentPage=spotlight/spotlight_prosthetics.html)

[http://phil.cdc.gov/PHIL/Images/04182000/00005/Ultrasound\\_lores.jpg](http://phil.cdc.gov/PHIL/Images/04182000/00005/Ultrasound_lores.jpg)

<http://www.dna.gov/training/evidence/>

**Caption:** Engineers are increasingly involved in design for the human body.

**Grade Level** 7 (4-7)

### Summary

Human beings are fascinating and complex living organisms—a symphony of different functional systems working in concert. Through a 10-lesson series with hands-on activities students are introduced to seven systems of the human body—skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, sensory, and reproductive—as well as genetics. At every stage, they are also introduced to engineers' creative, real-world involvement in caring for the human body.

### Engineering Connection

Engineers are increasingly involved in design for the human body. Biomedical engineers create artificial limbs using materials and sensors to replicate natural function and movement. Understanding the muscular system enables engineers to design everyday tools, appliances and products. Other engineers design medical solutions to improve health and address disorders. This may take the form of devices, implants, machines, medicines and technologies (diagnostic equipment, pacemakers, surgical techniques, hearing aids, laser eye surgery, ultrasound, amniocentesis, in-vitro fertilization, pain medicine). Engineers also apply their understanding of DNA to numerous real-world applications. As part of their design work, engineers create flow charts, prototypes and models, and make technical presentations, to learn, test and communicate their work.

**Engineering Category** = #1 Relating science and/or math concept(s) to engineering

## Subject Area

life science

## Keywords

bioengineering, biomedical, biomedical engineering, biotechnology, body, health, human, human body, medical

## Educational Standards

*NGSS Grades 6-8 (Science)*

MS-ETS1-1; Engineering Design

Students who demonstrate understanding can: Define the criteria and constraints of a design problem with sufficient precision to ensure a successful solution, taking into account relevant scientific principles and potential impacts on people and the natural environment that may limit possible solutions. ID# = [S2454533](#)

*CCSS: Math*

CCSS.Math.Content.6.NS.B.3 aka 6.NS.3 (Grade 6)

The Number System: Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples.

Fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit decimals using the standard algorithm for each operation.

ID# = [S11434D3](#)

## Related Lessons & Activities

### Related Lessons

1. Engineering Bones
2. Muscles in Motion
3. Body Circulation
4. Breathe In, Breathe Out
5. Digestion Simulation
6. My Mechanical Ear Can Hear!
7. Biomedical Devices for Your Ears
8. We've Come a Long Way, Baby!
9. DNA: The Human Body Recipe
10. Bone Fractures and Engineering

### Related Activities

- Prosthetic Party
- Sticks and Stones Will Break That Bone!
- The Artificial Bicep
- Measuring Our Muscles
- Clearing a Path to the Heart
- Polluted Air = Polluted Lungs
- Protect That Pill
- Living with Your Liver
- Sounds All Around
- Protect Those Eyes
- You're the Expert!
- Who Robbed the Bank?
- DNA Build
- Repairing Broken Bones

### Time Required

1400 minutes

### Time Required Note

(230 minutes for the lessons + 1170 for all the activities)

## Unit Overview

Overview of topics by lesson: 1) skeletal system, 2) muscular system, 3) circulatory system, 4) respiratory system, 5) digestive system, 6) auditory-hearing sensory system, 7) vision sensory system, 8) reproductive system, 9) genetics, and 10) skeletal system.

## Unit Schedule

Day 1: Engineering Bones lesson

Day 1-3: Prosthetic Party activity

Day 4-5: Sticks and Stones Will Break That Bone! activity

Day 6: Muscles, Oh My! lesson

Day 7: The Artificial Bicep activity

Day 8-9: Measuring Our Muscles activity

Day 10: Body Circulation lesson

Day 11: Clearing a Path to the Heart activity

Day 12: Breathe In, Breathe Out lesson

Day 12-13: Polluted Air = Polluted Lungs activity

Day 14: Digestion Simulation lesson

Day 15: Protect That Pill activity

Day 16: My Mechanical Ear Can Hear! lesson

Day 17: Sounds All Around activity

Day 18: Biomedical Devices for the Eyes lesson

Day 19: Protect Those Eyes activity

Day 20: We've Come a Long Way, Baby! lesson

Day 20-21: You're the Expert activity

Day 22: DNA: The Human Body Recipe lesson

Day 23: Who Robbed the Bank? activity

Day 24: DNA Build activity

Day 25: Bone Fractures and Engineering lesson

Day 26-30: Repairing Broken Bones activity (requires multiple 60-minute periods to complete; suggest 60 minutes on five different days)

## Summary Assessment

None

## Attachments

None

## Other

None

## Redirect URL

None

## Contributors

See individual lessons and activities.

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## Supporting Program

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**Key:** Yellow highlight = required component