



# Healthcare Sparks

## Excite, Motivate, Empower

Danae Smart

Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Loma Linda, CA  
Healthy Neighborhood Projects of Loma Linda



### Introduction

Healthcare Sparks was designed to encourage professionals-in-training to interact and engage with middle and high-school students with the goal of sparking their interest in healthcare and STEM-related fields.

Why Healthcare Sparks?

- There has to be more diversity in healthcare
- Lack of resources and lack of exposure to black and brown healthcare professionals are two barriers that inhibit minority students from pursuing health careers

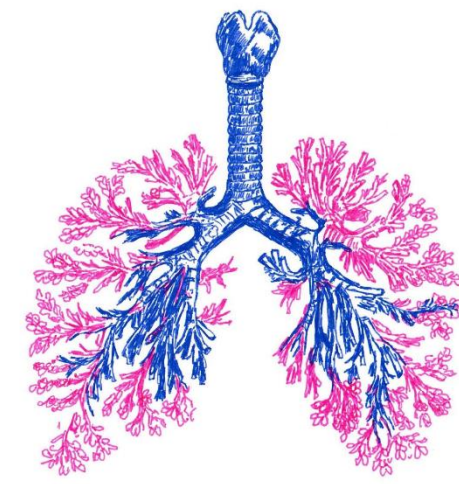
### Method



- 1 Introduce topics via short lesson or video script
- 2 Pair students into groups with mentor (Generally 1:3 ratio, mentor to students)
- 3 Help students complete interactive booklet designed specifically for lecture topic.
- 4 Do activity session to solidify topics learned, and give students a chance to engage in activity
- 5 Career exploration pages: Allows students to see real example of a healthcare professional of a similar background. It also provides the necessary academic requirements, along with the average salary of that profession.

### Workbook module sample

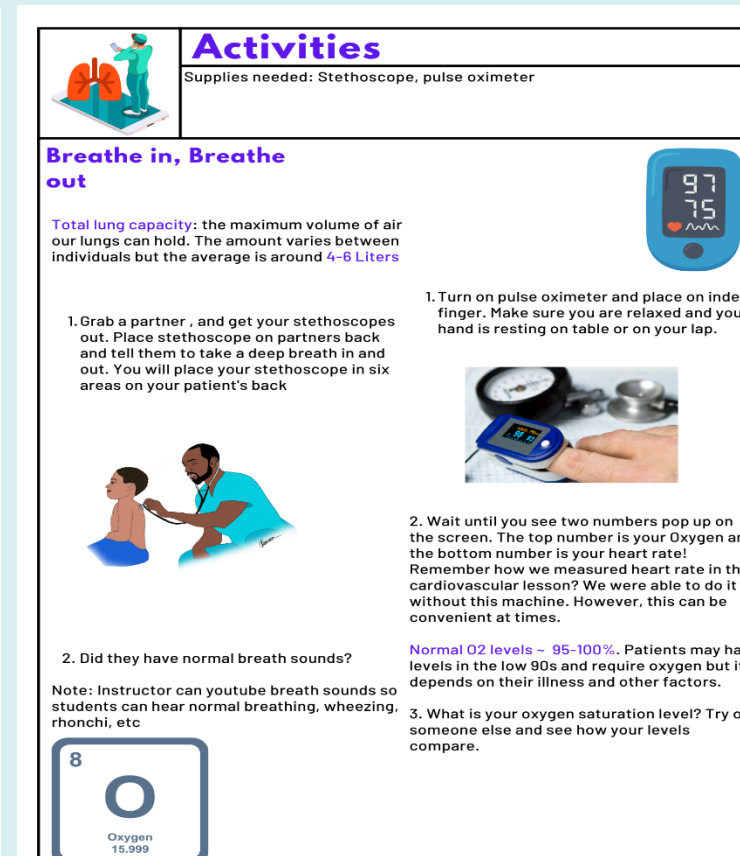
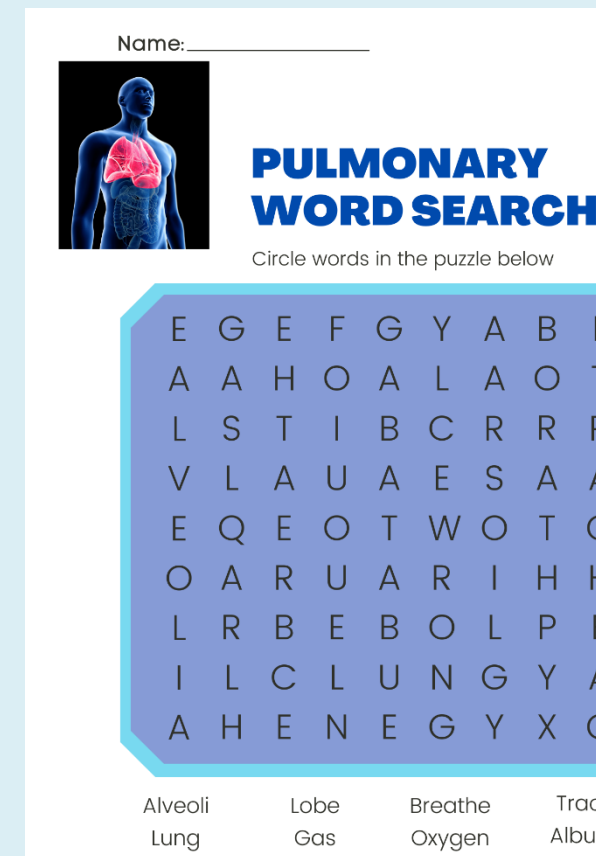
#### Pulmonary System



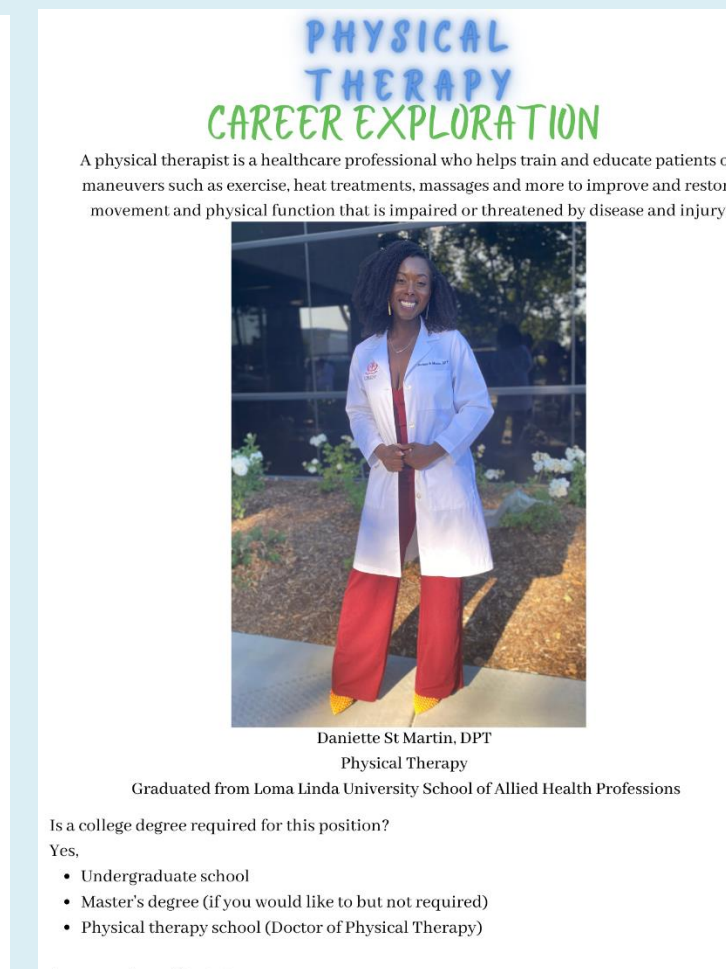
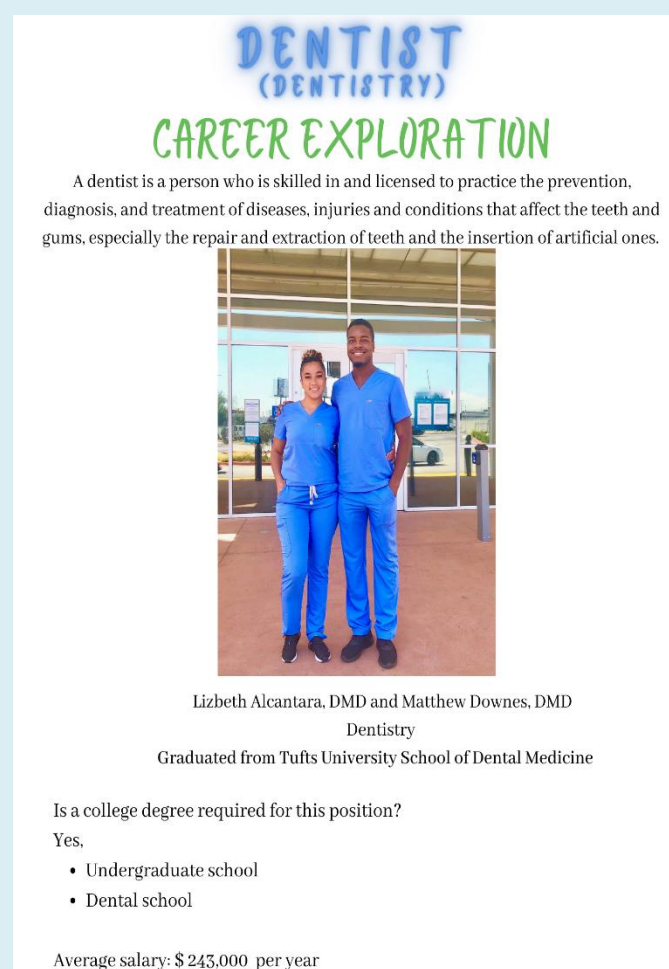
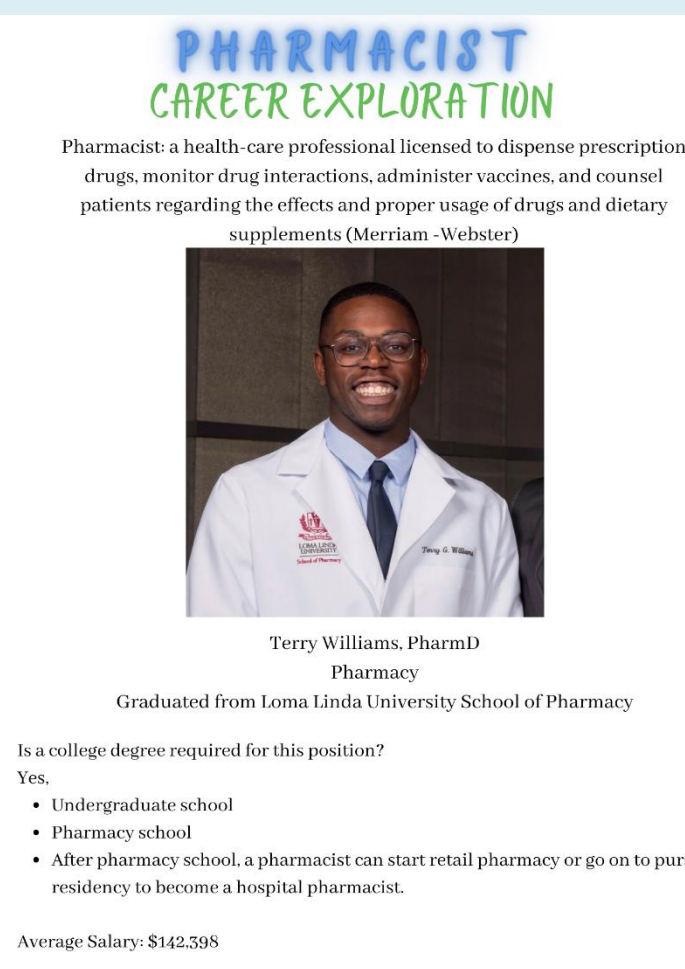
Youtube video - The Attack

#### Learning Objectives

- What are lungs, and why are they important?
- Know the difference between inhalation, exhalation, and gases involved
- Describe the pathway of airflow
- What is asthma?
- What are some of the treatments available?
- How is a pulse oximeter used?



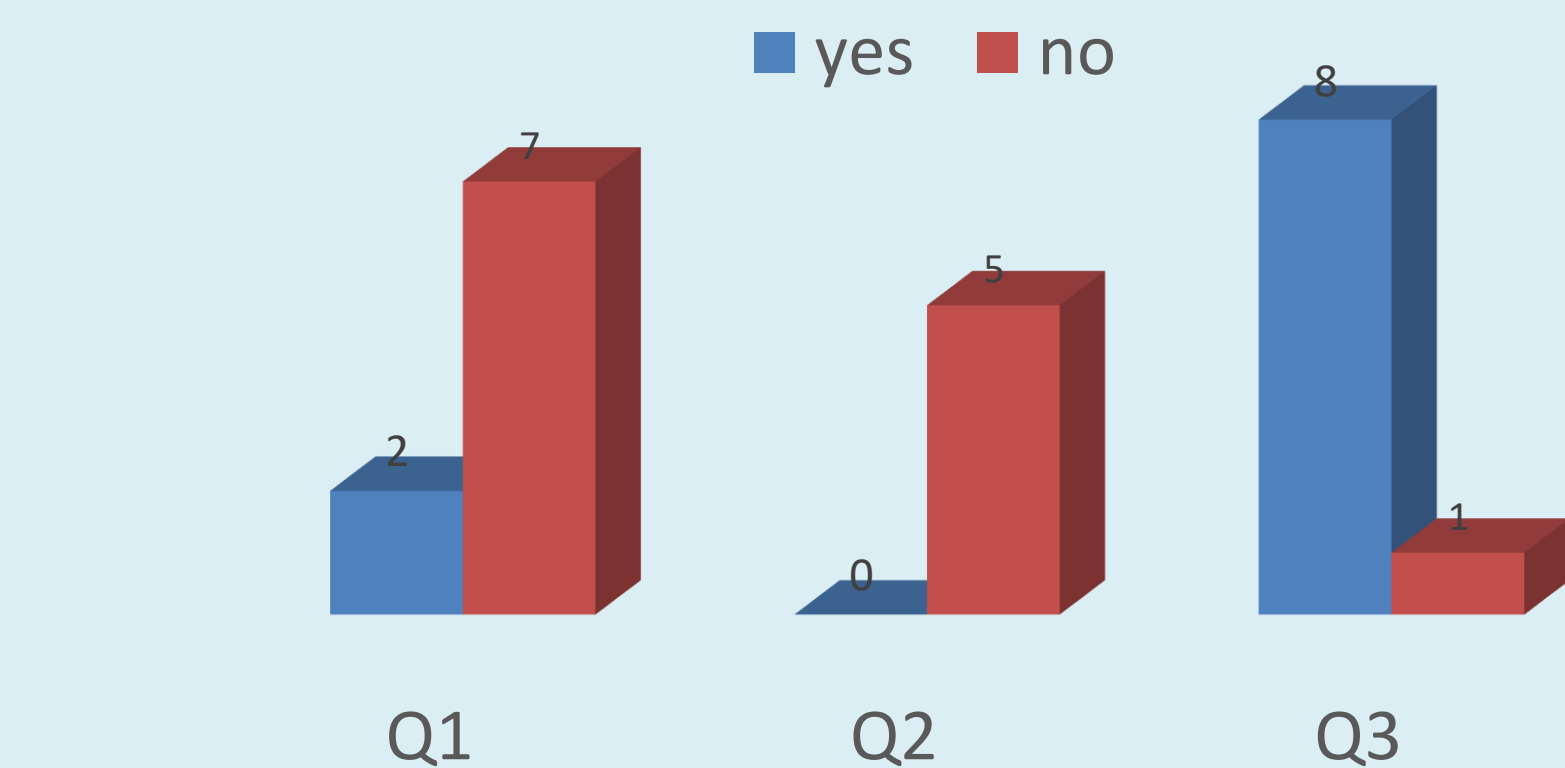
### Career Exploration



### Survey questions

- Q1. Our recent session was about neurology. Did you know what a neurologist was before this session?
- Q2. Before our pulmonary session about asthma did you know about pharmacists?
- Q3. Have you become more excited to learn about different careers in medicine and science since meeting the Healthcare Sparks team?

### Responses



### Future Goals /Staying Connected

- Publish interactive booklet, expand to more medical schools
- Provide Scholarship opportunities
- Increase diversity in healthcare; address health and healthcare disparities
- Website : [Healthcaresparks.org](https://healthcaresparks.org) Instagram: [Healthcare\\_sparks](https://www.instagram.com/healthcare_sparks)
- YouTube: Healthcare Sparks

### Acknowledgements

Thank you to the individuals who have submitted pictures and content for the booklet. Special thanks to Healthy Neighborhood projects of Loma Linda for incorporating Healthcare Sparks into the service projects. Thank you to Gold Humanism Honor Society for providing me with this opportunity to share my work.