



Health Problems Series
Asthma

## Asthma Vocab Answers

- 1. airways: tubes in lungs through which air travels; also called bronchial tubes or bronchi.
- 2. alveoli: tiny air sacs in the lungs.
- 3. asthma: a condition that causes trouble breathing because of problems with the airways.
- 4. bronchoconstriction: when the muscles surrounding the airways tighten.
- 5. bronchodilator: a medication that dilates (opens) the airways, or bronchial tubes.
- 6. histamine: substance in the body that's released during an allergic reaction; when histamine affects the lungs, a person with asthma may have breathing problems.
- 7. inhaler: a device that can get asthma medicine directly into a person's lungs.
- 8. lungs: work with your respiratory system to allow you to take in fresh air, get rid of stale air, and even talk.
- **9. mucus:** sticky stuff that protects and lubricates mucous membranes in your mouth, nose, lungs, stomach, and intestines.
- 10. nebulizer: a machine that turns liquid medicine into a mist that can be breathed in.
- **11. spacer:** attaches to an inhaler on one end and to a mouthpiece or mask on the other end, making it easier to use an inhaler.
- 12. trachea: the windpipe it carries air into and out of the lungs.
- 13. triggers: anything that brings on asthma symptoms.

