

# The Kidneys3D

Teaching Human Anatomy through 3D simulation

## Lesson

Teaching Human Anatomy through 3D simulation

## Objectives

1) Students will gain a basic understanding of the Kidneys through 3D simulation and visualization,

2) Students will gain a deeper understanding of the components of the Kidneys, and how they function together.

## Activity

Students travel through the Kidneys in real-time 3D, helping them to visualize and understand its structure and function.

## Materials

### Kidneys3D Homepage

(click or cut and paste URL into browser)

<http://www.sunrisevr.com/thekidney3d>



## 3D Simulation and Investigation

3D simulations are designed to make subject matter more engaging to today's technology-savvy kids, and help them bridge the gap between the "concrete" world and the abstract world of concepts. When students experience complex subject matter in real-time 3D it becomes clearer. Students learn best when they are actively immersed in subject matter from a variety of different viewpoints; 3D simulation is designed to help students visualize difficult ideas and objects through investigation at any scale (atomic, cellular, planetary, conceptual, etc), and doing things that would normally be impossible.

## Required Technology

- PC/Tablet

## Optional Technology

- Projector
- Multiple Computers
- Internet Connection

## Grouping

- Large Group Instruction
- Small Group Instruction

## Staging

Check computer/Tablet for Internet access if needed

## Procedure

1. Access program
2. Pick a lead student navigator to control movement through the 3D environment
3. Pick a lead student reader to read information about the Kidneys as it appears on-screen
4. Begin the lesson by asking students what they already know about the Kidneys; write responses on the board
5. Review basic facts about the Kidneys including:
  - The Kidneys are twin bean-shaped organs in your back, each about the size of your fist
  - The Kidneys perform many vital functions for the body
6. Start traveling through the program, facilitate discussion by asking students where the class should go.
7. Use the 3D simulation as a visual aid; explain information as needed
8. Have students pay special attention to:
  - The many functions of the Kidneys
  - The role of nephrons in the Kidneys
9. Have a final wrap-up with students with a question and answer period about the Kidneys. Ask them how it works, and what are the primary components and function of each component.

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## Optional Activity: 3D Scavenger Hunt + Discussion

Have students find a particular part of the Kidneys, such as a nephron. If students are on multiple computers, have them “race” to the part of the Kidneys the teacher wishes to highlight. Once students find/arrive at the location, the teacher may commence discussion. Repeat in other areas of the simulation as desired to build understanding.

## Homework/Review

Students may also access the program outside the classroom to supplement textbook questions

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## Functional Notes

- An internet connection is needed
- Ensure the Unity3D Player or Adobe Flash is installed on the computer; download the latest at <https://unity3d.com/webplayer> and <http://www.adobe.com/downloads.html>.
- If you see something in **red** you can probably click on it
- For ease of use you can go through most 3D objects, and even the ground
- The school library can request and access programs (free) at [www.sunrisevr.com](http://www.sunrisevr.com) for off-line use via PC and Mac if there is no internet connection