

How does the digestive system work?



Key Vocabulary:

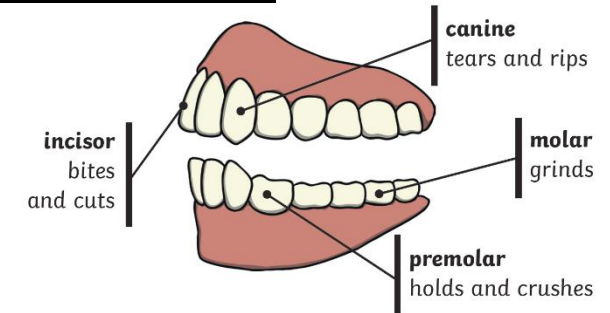
Word	Definition
digest	To break down food so it can be used by the body.
oesophagus	A muscular tube which moves food from the mouth to the stomach.
stomach	An organ in the digestive system where food is broken down with stomach acid and by being churned around.
small intestine	Part of the intestine where nutrients are absorbed into the body.
large intestine	Part of the intestine where water is absorbed from remaining waste food. Stools are formed in the large intestine.
rectum	Part of the digestive system where stools are stored before leaving the body through the anus.
absorb	To take in or soak up. Nutrients from our food are absorbed into the body during digestion.

Key Facts:

We have different types of teeth for different functions - cutting, tearing and grinding.
In the mouth , food is broken down by the teeth and mixed with saliva.
In the stomach , the food is mixed with stomach acid.
In the small intestine , food is broken down and nutrients are absorbed into the blood.
In the large intestine , water is absorbed into the blood.
Waste products are stored in the rectum and passed out through the anus .
Burps and farts are caused by excess air or gas in our digestive system. This gas can be breathed in when we eat or produced by our digestive system.
Animals have different digestive systems because they have different diets and eating patterns to humans.

Diagrams:

Teeth and their function:



The human digestive system:

