

Year 4 Red Kites

Science

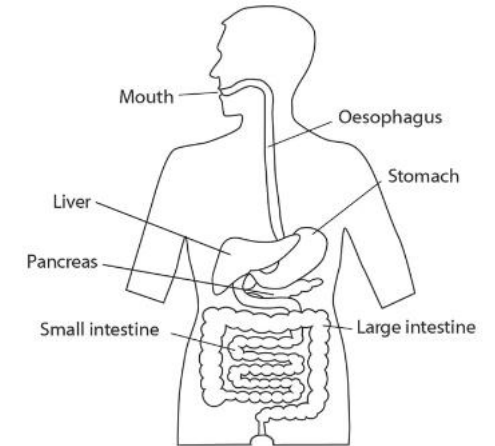
Autumn 1

The human body



What is our digestive system?

Digestion happens in the digestive system. This is a series of organs that break down the food so it can be absorbed into our blood and travel around to where it is needed.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
canine	The pointy teeth used for tearing food.
cell	The building block of all living things.
digestion	The breaking down of food in our bodies.
incisor	Teeth at the front of the mouth.
intestine	The main area of the body where digestion takes place.
minerals	Elements found in our foods to help our bodies develop.
molar	The flat teeth at the back of our mouths to help us grind our food up.
oesophagus	The tube that leads from the mouth through the throat to the stomach.
premolar	A tooth situated between the canine teeth and the molars.
stomach	The organ into which food passes from the oesophagus for mixing and digestion before passing to the small intestine.
tissue	A group of cells that work together to perform a function in our bodies.
vitamins	Substances necessary for the healthy functioning of our bodies.

Teeth

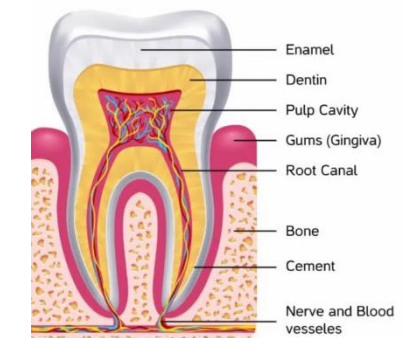
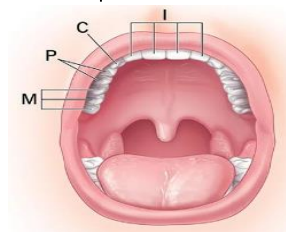
Teeth are used for cutting and chewing food. They start the digestive process which gives us the energy we need to live.

Types of teeth

We have 4 different types of teeth and they all have different roles in helping us eat. They are incisors, canines and pre-molars and molars.

Parts of our teeth

Teeth are made up of different parts.



Types of teeth

Canines are pointed for tearing and ripping food - these are usually used when chewing meat.

Incisors are shovel shaped and help bite lumps out of and cutting food.

Premolars and **molars** are flat and they grind and crush food.

Looking after our teeth

Humans look after their teeth by brushing and flossing and ensuring that they do not eat foods high in sugar. Not looking after teeth can lead to an increase in plaque and tooth decay.

How does the digestive system work?

The smell of food triggers saliva to be produced. The digestive system begins with the mouth and teeth where food is ingested and chewed. Saliva is mixed with the food which helps to break it up. When the food is small enough to be swallowed, it is pushed down the oesophagus by muscles to the stomach. In the stomach, food is mixed further. The mixed food is then sent to the small intestine which absorbs nutrients from the food. Any leftover broken down food then moves on to the large intestine. The food minus the nutrients arrives in the rectum where muscles turn it into faeces. It is stored here until it is pushed out by the anus. This is called excretion.

What are cells?

These are the building blocks of our bodies. All life on Earth is made from cells. Without cells, there can be no life. Each component in the animal cell has a particular function. Animal cells often have an irregular shape.

