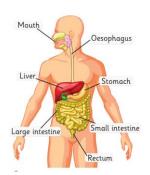
Digestive system



The food we eat has to be broken down into other substances that our bodies can use. This is called digestion. Digestion happens in the digestive system.

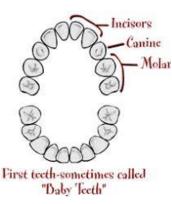
Mouth

Food goes into the digestive system through the mouth. It is broken down into bits by chewing. Saliva in the mouth mixes in to make food softer and easier to swallow.



Animals including humans

Teeth



Teeth help to cut and crush the food in the mouth. Humans have three main types of teeth; incisors, canines and molars. Our teeth change with age - we lose our baby teeth and get adult teeth as we get older

<u>Herbivore</u>

An animal adapted for eating plant material. A herbivore has wide flat teeth

Carnivore

An animal that eats only meat. They have sharp teeth for cutting.

<u>Tongue</u>



The tongue help to push the food around when you eat and helps you to swallow by pushing food to the back of the mouth.

Oesophagus

After swallowing food, it then passes down the oesophagus before it goes into the stomach

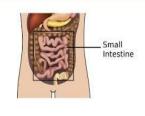
Stomach



The stomach produces acid, and this kills harmful microorganisms which may have been swallowed within the food. Stomach muscles help mix and break up food by churning it around.

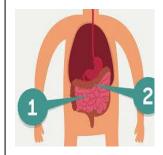
Small intestine

Digested food is absorbed in the small intestine and into the blood steam. The blood can then take this to other parts of the body

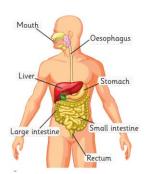


Large intestine

Once the food reaches the large intestine (2 on the diagram below) most of it has already been absorbed via the small intestine (1 on the diagram below). This leaves waste material - (the faeces or poo) which the body doesn't need, and we get rid of it when we go to the toilet!



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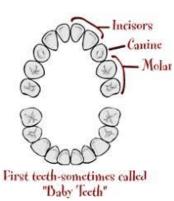
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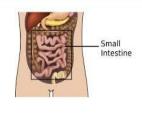
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