

# The Digestive System in Humans



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**LO:** To describe how the digestion system works humans.

- To know what the mouth, tongue, teeth, oesophagus, stomach and intestine do to help us digest our food.
- To know the order of our digestive system.

# Introduction

In this lesson we will be learning about **digestion in humans**.

Digestion is a scientific way of describing how we **break down our food**.

It describes everything that happens to our food once it enters our mouths.

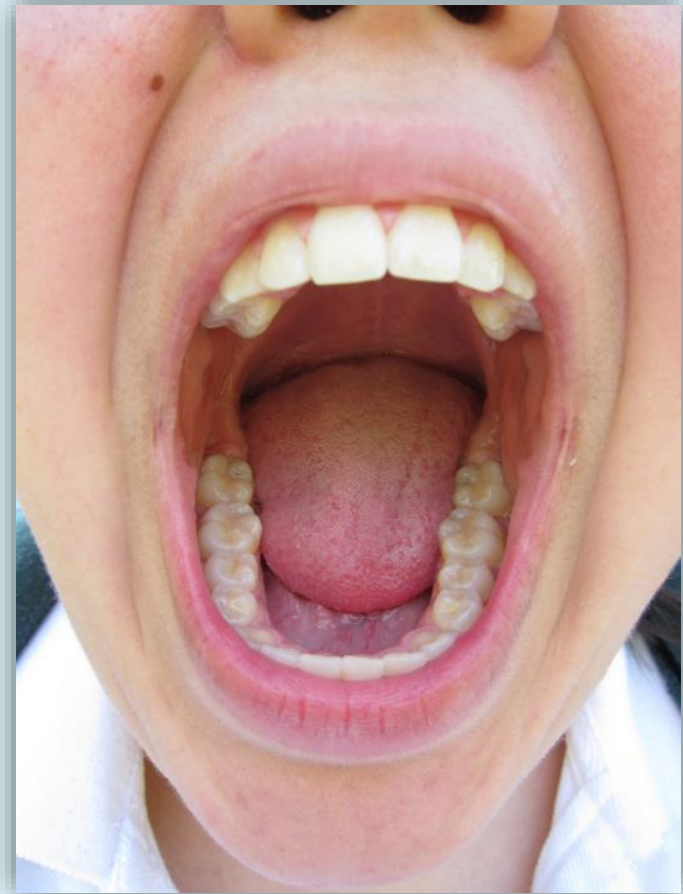


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## Starter

The digestive system starts in our **mouths**.

Which sentences describe the tongue, mouth and teeth?

A

Crush the food into smaller pieces.

B

Moves food around and allows you to swallow and taste food.

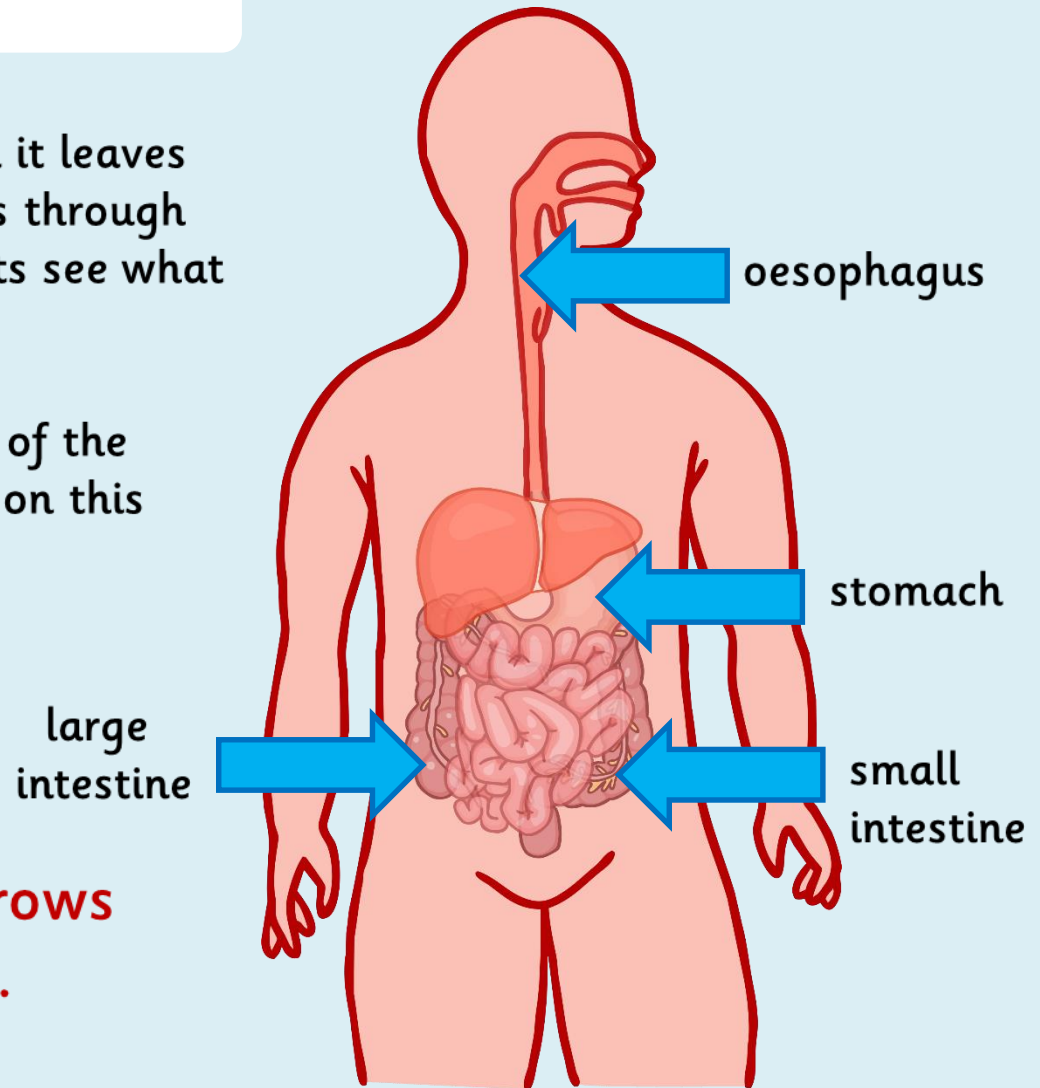
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Digestion begins here. This is where food is broken down by chewing.

## Starter

When food is swallowed it leaves the mouth and continues through our digestive system. Lets see what you already know.

Can you label any parts of the human digestive system on this diagram?

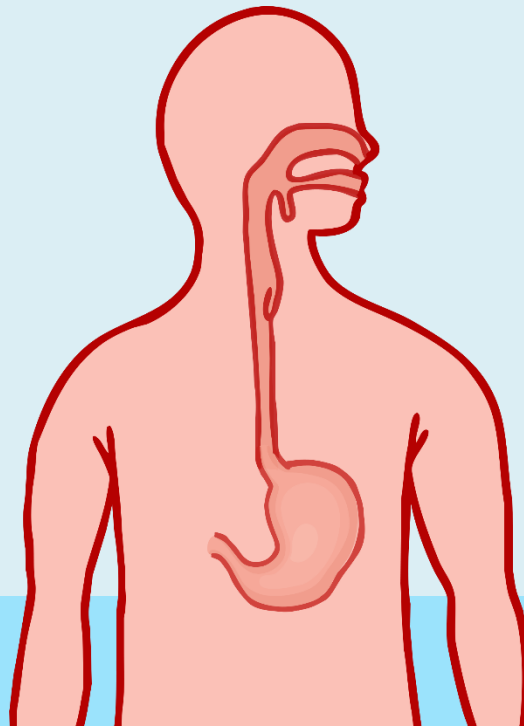


Click on the arrows  
for answers.

# Introduction

When you swallow your food enters your **oesophagus**.

The oesophagus is a long tube the connects your **mouth** to your **stomach**.



# Demonstration

Your food doesn't just drop down your oesophagus, the muscles in the oesophagus squeeze the food down.



This is a little bit like a tube of toothpaste. If you squeeze the tube behind the toothpaste. The toothpaste is forced along the tube and out of the other side.

That's also why you can still swallow your food if you are upside down!

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# Demonstration

After the oesophagus, your food enters your stomach. Your stomach is like a large sack which churns your food with strong acid.



Cola has acid in it. If we mix some bread with cola in a sealed bag and churn it around, we can see how the stomach works!

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An anatomical illustration of the human digestive system and skeleton. The background is light blue. On the left, a pinkish-red liver is visible. In the center, the stomach and intestines are shown in shades of pink and red. On the right, a grey skeleton is depicted, showing the ribcage, spine, and arm. The title 'Intestines' is centered in a white box at the top.

# Intestines

After the stomach, your food enters your intestines.

Your small intestine breaks down your food even more and absorbs nutrients through its walls and into your blood.

The large intestine then lets water be absorbed through its walls and back into your body.

## Activity

Can you make an information poster to tell people what happens to their food once it enters their mouths?

Your poster needs to include these words:

Digestive  
system

Mouth

Tongue

Teeth

Oesophagus

Stomach

Intestine

Food