

# Digestive System Explorer: A Research Guide with Nova and Bea

*Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of the human digestive system and compare the teeth of different animals.*

Use this research template to document how humans and animals process their food. Explore how our teeth and organs work together to give us energy. Use your best scientific vocabulary to complete each section.

*Word bank: oesophagus · stomach · small intestine · large intestine · incisors · canines · molars · herbivore · carnivore · omnivore · digestion · nutrients*

## 1. The Journey of Food: Describe the role of the oesophagus and the stomach in the digestive process. (3 marks)

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## 2. Explain why the small intestine is a vital part of the digestive system for human health. (3 marks)

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## 3. Compare and contrast: How do the teeth of a carnivore differ from the teeth of a herbivore? (4 marks)

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## 4. Justify your answer: Why do humans have a variety of different tooth shapes (incisors, canines, and molars)? (3 marks)

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**5. What might happen if the large intestine stopped working correctly during the digestive process? (3 marks)**

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**6. Scientific Reflection: How does the digestive system help an animal survive in its specific habitat? (4 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Design a 'Digestive System Map' that illustrates the path food takes through the human body. Label your diagram clearly and add an annotation explaining one major change that happens to the food in each organ.*