

A Journey Through the Digestive System with Bea the Bee

Learning objective: To describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans.

Use the prompts below to write a scientific report explaining how the human body breaks down food. Imagine you are following a piece of food on its journey through the body.

Our journey begins in the mouth, where the teeth start the important job of breaking down our food into smaller pieces.

Word bank: oesophagus · stomach · intestines · nutrients · digestion · process · firstly · afterwards · then · finally · absorbed · broken down

1. The Oesophagus: Once the food has been chewed, what happens as it travels down towards the stomach? Use the word 'oesophagus' in your answer... (2 marks)

2. The Stomach: Describe what happens to the food once it reaches the stomach. How does the stomach help with digestion? (2 marks)

3. The Intestines: Explain what the small intestine does to help our bodies get the energy they need from the food... (2 marks)

4. Absorption and Waste: What is the final part of the process? Where does the waste go after the body has taken all the useful nutrients? (2 marks)

5. Summary: Why is the digestive system so important for a healthy human body? Think about what would happen if we didn't digest our food. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a specific food item, such as an apple or a piece of bread, and list the different nutrients it provides to help the body grow and stay active.