

Bea's Digestive System Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of the main parts of the human digestive system.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of how our bodies break down food. Read the front, try to answer, then check the back!

What is the process of digestion?

The process where the body breaks down food into smaller pieces so it can be used for energy and growth.

What is the role of saliva in the mouth?

Saliva begins the process of breaking down food chemically and makes it soft enough to swallow.

What is the oesophagus?

A muscular tube that pushes swallowed food down from the mouth to the stomach.

What happens to food in the stomach?

The stomach churns the food and mixes it with strong acid to turn it into a thick liquid.

What is the primary job of the small intestine?

To absorb nutrients from the digested food into the bloodstream.

What is the role of the large intestine?

It absorbs water from the remaining food waste and turns it into solid waste.

Why do we need nutrients?

Nutrients provide the body with the energy, vitamins, and minerals needed to stay healthy and grow.

What is the final stage of digestion?

The body removes the solid waste that it cannot use.

True or False: Digestion begins in the stomach.

False. Digestion begins in the mouth with chewing and saliva.

What is the main function of the teeth during digestion?

To break food into smaller pieces, which increases the surface area for enzymes to work.