

Nova’s Digestive System Discovery Mat

Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of the organs in the human digestive system.

Key Vocabulary

Below is your vocabulary reference guide, categorised by the journey food takes through the body. Use these terms to complete the challenge questions.

Ingestion The process of taking food or drink...	Oesophagus A muscular tube that carries f...	Stomach A muscular organ that churns food...
Small intestine Where nutrients are absorb...	Large intestine Where water is absorbed fr...	Rectum The final section of the large intesti...
Anus The opening at the end of the digestive...	Saliva A liquid produced in the mouth that he...	Enzymes Special proteins that act like tiny sc...
Nutrients Essential substances found in food...	Absorption The process by which nutrients...	Digestion The process of breaking down fo...
Peristalsis The wave-like muscle contractio...	Waste The indigestible parts of food that the...	Villi Tiny, finger-like projections in the small i...
Explain why the ...	Compare and con...	Justify your ans... Why is it important that f...
What might happ...	If you were desig...	Evaluate the imp...