Bea’s Dental Discovery: The Anatomy of a Tooth

Learning objective: To identify and name the parts of a human tooth and understand the function of different types of teeth in the human mouth.

Follow the steps below to complete your biological diagram. Use your best scientific drawing style: clear lines, sharp pencils, and accurate labels.

Draw: Draw a large, cross-section view of a molar tooth in the centre of your page. Use a sharp pencil to sketch the shape, ensuring the crown (top part) and the roots (bottom part) are clearly visible. Add internal layers to show the enamel (outer shell), the dentine (middle layer), and the pulp cavity in the centre. Use a ruler to draw straight lines from your labels in the word bank to the correct parts of your drawing.

Label words: Enamel · Dentine · Pulp · Gum · Root · Crown · Cementum · Nerve endings

Steps:

1. Draw an arrow pointing to the outer layer of the tooth. What is the name of this hard, protective substance?
2. Where are the blood vessels and nerves located within the tooth? Explain why this area is sensitive.
3. Name the three types of teeth found in the human mouth and briefly describe the function of each.
4. Why is it important to brush away sugar and plaque? How does this protect the enamel?

5. If a tooth is damaged, why might a dentist need to perform a procedure to reach the pulp?