



"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart"

Colossians 3:23

The Digestive System

Year 4
Spring 1



The Components of the Digestive System

Key Knowledge:

To know that:

The digestive system produces energy from food and excretes waste products.

The digestive system includes: mouth, tongue, teeth, oesophagus, stomach and intestines.

Humans have 3 different types of teeth each with a specific purpose: canines, incisors and molars.

Within animals, including humans, nutrients and water are transported through the blood.

The mouth produces saliva to start breaking down food.

The tongue and teeth work together to chew food.

The oesophagus transports food to the stomach.

Acid in the stomach breaks down food further.

Food is transported through the small intestine by peristalsis and nutrients are absorbed into the blood here.

Food is transported through the large intestine by peristalsis and further nutrients and water are absorbed into the blood.

Canines are pointed and help to tear and pierce food.

Incisors are sharp and help cut and chop food.

Molars are large and flat teeth and they grind and chew food.

Key Vocabulary:

Digestion: the process of food gradually being broken down into simple soluble substances.

Digestive system: the organs which digest food.

Molar and premolar: large, flat teeth which chew and grind food at the back of the mouth

Incisor: front teeth which chop and cut food.

Canine: pointy teeth which rip and tear meat.

Oesophagus: the long tube between the mouth and the stomach.

Stomach: a sack-like, muscular organ that is attached to the oesophagus. When food enters the stomach, it is churned with lots of acid

Small intestine: the long, thin winding tube that food goes through after it leaves the stomach.

Large intestine: the shorter wider tube that follows the small intestine.

Rectum: the lower part of the large intestine, where faeces (poo) is stored before it leaves the body.

Anus: the opening at the end of the digestive system from which solid waste leaves the body.

Saliva: the liquid in your mouth which helps to aid digestion

