

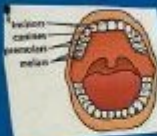
The Digestive System

Introduction

Have you ever wondered where your waste comes from? Well, read this amazing chronological report and find out the amazing stages that give your food its juices. **WARNING:** get ready for your meal to be here.

Mouth, Teeth and Tongue

The mouth is the first stage of the digestive system. First, you use your incisors to slice. Then you use your molars to chop on the food. The tongue's job is a big purpose. It swallows the food around until it is ready to swallow. Then, the salivary glands shoot out saliva and the food gets submerged in it. The esophagus also helps to swallow the food and the diaphragm helps to make a ball called a bolus for the tongue to fling back into the throat.



Esophagus

When your food has been swallowed, it goes into a long tube connecting the throat to the stomach. It is called the esophagus. Did you know it only takes two to three seconds to get down the esophagus? I know, crazy fast right? Another amazing fact is for an adult the length of the esophagus is a whopping 10cm. Rings made of muscle squeeze behind each lump of food to push it along. These are called peristalsis. Then the bolus lands in the next part of the digestive system, called the stomach.



The Stomach

The stomach is an organ shaped like a J. When the food is in the stomach the bolus is turned into chyme. Chyme is a liquid made from the bolus. The stomach vigorously churns the food around and the very strong acid dissolves the food and kills any germs. It is important that there are no chunks in the liquid because the next stage is very narrow.

by Araya 1/1/11

The Rectum

The rectum is a place where all the waste is stored before using the bathroom.

The Anus

The anus is where all the solid waste comes out. This is now the end of the journey and how you get through the body.

not ready for the next one?

- 1) What is the tongue's job?
- 2) How many seconds does it take to get down the esophagus?
- 3) What shape is the stomach?
- 4) What is the rectum?

The Intestines

After a crazy journey the chyme slides into the small intestine. The small intestine is a very long tube that is also very narrow. Did you know the small intestine is 5-6m long! Even though it's called the small intestine it's that long! Now that's stretching. Its job is to soak up all the nutrients (all of the good stuff) and gets absorbed in the blood. Once it's going through the small intestine it goes into the large intestine. It is called the large intestine because it is not wider than the small intestine. Its job is to soak up all the water and get rid of it into the body. It becomes solid waste.

