

Year 4, Summer 2: What happens to the food we eat?

Key Vocabulary

Digestive system	The parts of the human body that process food.
Deciduous teeth	A human's first set of teeth, also known as milk or primary teeth.
Permanent teeth	A human's second set of teeth.
Canine	The teeth that tear and rip food.
Molar	The teeth that grind food (these are grouped into pre-molars, molars and wisdom teeth).
Incisor	The teeth that bite and cut food.
Crown	The part of the tooth you can see.
Root	The part of the tooth which is hidden.
Enamel	The smooth, shiny and white material making up the outer layer of tooth.
Dentine	A part of the tooth inside the enamel.
Pulp	A part of the tooth inside the dentine that contains blood vessels and nerves.
Blood vessels	A part of the tooth that keeps it alive.
Nerves	A part of the tooth that allow us to feel when it is in pain.
Gum	The flesh our teeth are embedded in.
Bone	Hard, whitish tissue making up the skeleton under the gum.
Cavity	A hole in the tooth.
Tooth decay	Damage to the tooth caused by bacteria.
Oesophagus	A pipe which pushes our food down towards our stomach.
Stomach	The place in the digestive system where food is broken down.
Small intestine	A very long tube where many of the nutrients from food are removed and placed into the bloodstream.
Large intestine	The last part of the digestive system also known as the colon. The place where water is removed leaving a brown material called faeces.
Producer	Plants that make their own food.
Consumer	Animal that eats food.
Predator	An animal that hunts, kills and eats other animals.
Prey	An animal that is hunted, killed and eaten by other animals.



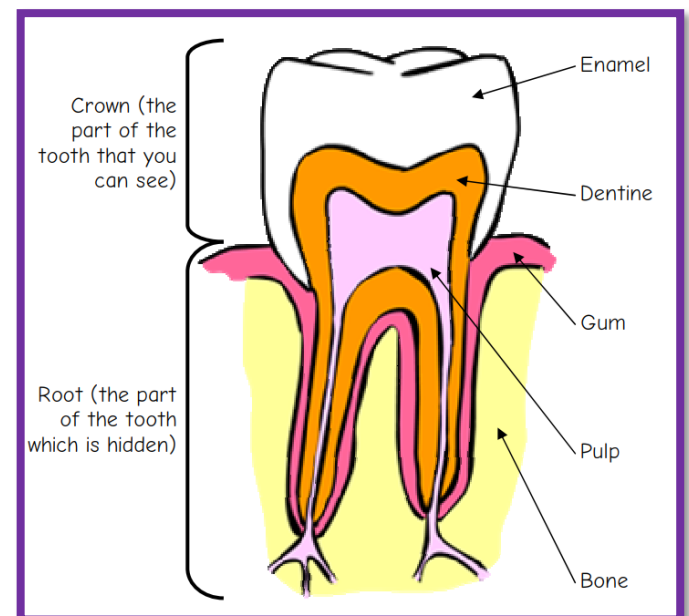
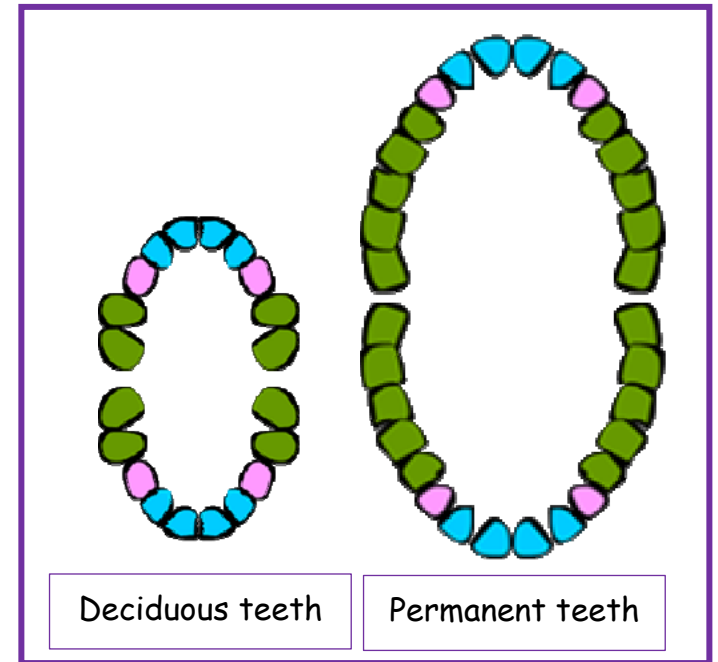
Incisor



Canine



Molar



Working scientifically

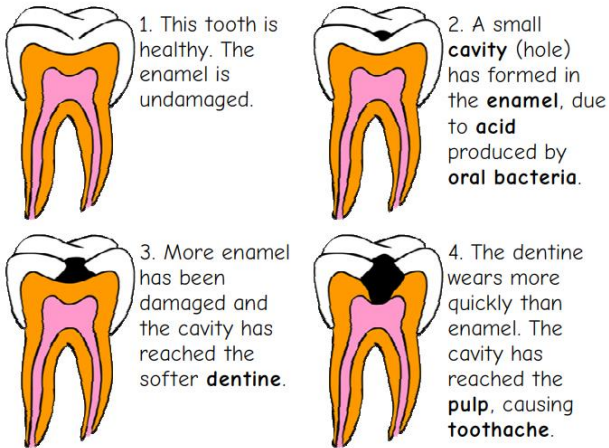


Read information text to learn about the structure of teeth.
Read information text to learn about the role of organs in the digestive system.



Investigate tooth decay by placing boiled eggs in different drinks and observing what happens to the 'enamel' (shell).

Four stages of tooth decay



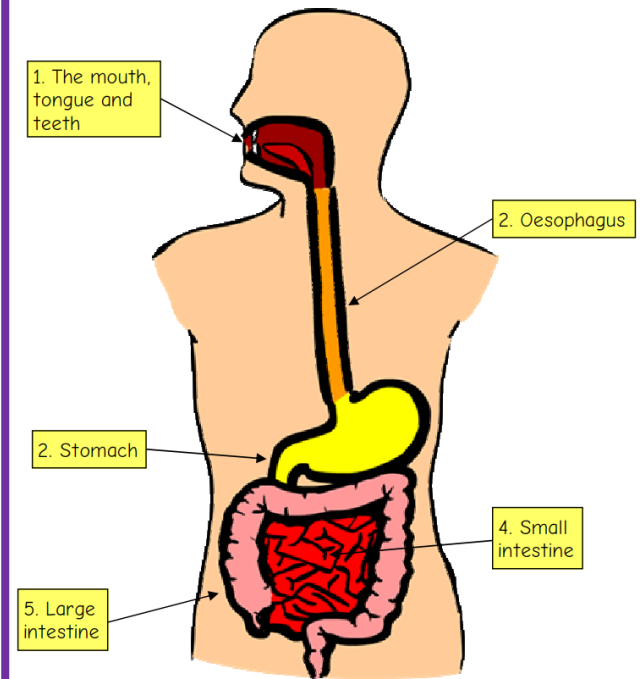
Process of Digestion:

The mouth, tongue and teeth: we chew food using our teeth and saliva is produced to soften food.

Oesophagus: when we swallow our food, it is forced down the oesophagus by the muscles which contract and squeeze it along. The process of the muscles squeezing the food in this wave-like motion is called **peristalsis**.

Stomach: once the food reaches the stomach, it is mixed with the stomach acid to kill off any remaining bacteria.

The major organs of the human digestive system



Small intestine: where nutrients from food are absorbed by the body and go directly into the bloodstream.

Large intestine: water is reabsorbed by the body in the large intestine and any waste leaves the body as faeces.

To help prevent tooth decay:

- limit sugary food and drink.
- brush teeth twice daily using a fluoride toothpaste.
- visit your dentist regularly.

An Example of a Food Chain

The arrows in a food chain show the flow of energy.

