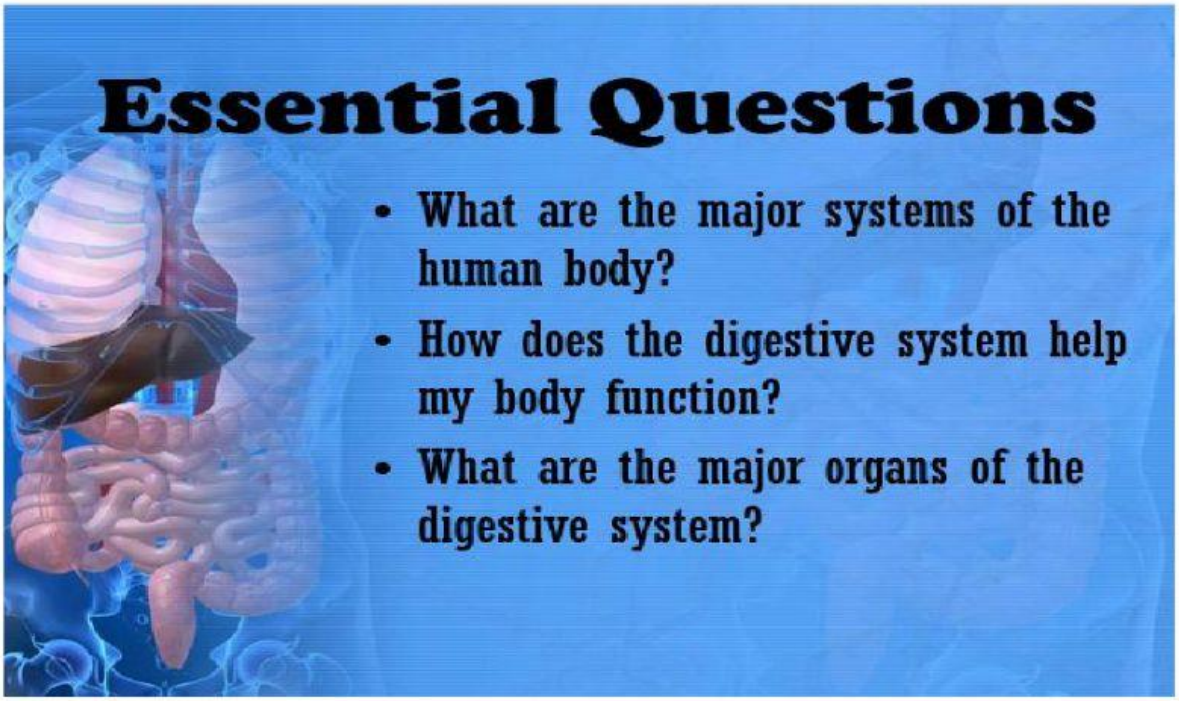

THE
DIGESTIVE
SYSTEM


Essential Questions
• What are the major systems of the human body?
• How does the digestive system help my body function?
• What are the major organs of the digestive system?

The Human Body



- Remember, organs that work together to do a job in the body are called **organ systems**.
- This week we will be looking at some of the major organ systems starting with...

DIGESTION!

What's the Purpose?



- The purpose of the Digestive System is to convert food particles into simpler molecules that can be absorbed into the bloodstream and used by the body

Breaking Down Food



- As you chew your food, food is broken down into smaller parts. Glands in your mouth produce saliva. Saliva breaks down some of the carbohydrates. Chewing and saliva break down starchy foods (breads, pasta, potatoes, etc) into sugars for the body.

Think of it This Way...



- The Digestive System breaks food down into smaller parts that our body needs for energy, growth, and repair.

Did You Know??

Digestion begins as soon as you begin to chew your food!



Try This...

- Try eating an unsalted cracker for a minute or two.
- What do you notice?

The cracker begins to have a sweet taste.

What's Happening???
Your body is breaking down the starch in the cracker and turning it into sugar.



Moving on with Digestion

- From the mouth, food travels down the esophagus, the long tube that leads to the stomach.
- Your stomach has acid that breaks down the swallowed food.

More Digestion

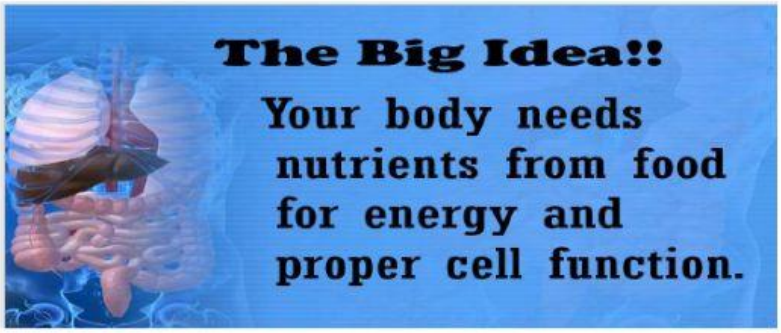


- When food leaves your stomach and goes to your small intestine, it is a thick liquid. As food moves through the small intestine, nutrients are absorbed and passed into the blood.
- Whatever is not absorbed by the small intestine goes to the large intestine, where water and vitamins are absorbed.
- The remaining waste leaves your body when you use the restroom

Other Parts of the Digestive System



- **Pancreas** – produces the hormone insulin that regulates blood sugar levels. It also helps neutralize stomach acid
- **Liver** – produces bile, which breaks down fats in foods
- **Gallbladder** – pouch-like organ that stores bile for future use



REVIEW

1. WHERE DOES THE DIGESTIVE PROCESS START_____?
2. WHAT DOES THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM DO _____?
3. WHAT TUBE DOES FOOD TRAVEL DOWN TO THE STOMACH_____?
4. WHAT DOES YOUR STOMACH HAVE THAT BREAKS DOWN THE SWOLLOWED FOOD _____?
5. WHERE ARE NUTIENTS STORED AND PASSED INTO THE BLOOD _____?
6. WHERE ARE WATER AND VITAMINS ABSORBED_____?
7. WHAT PART HELPS NEUTRALIZE STOMACH ACID_____?
8. WHICH PART PRODUCES BILE WHICH BREAKS DOWN FATS IN FOODS _____?
9. WHICH POUCH LIKE ORGAN STORES BILE FOR HE FUTURE _____?

10 WHERE IS THE FINAL PLACE FOR DIGESTINE _____?