

The Digestive System Gap Fill

Fill in the gaps to complete the paragraphs describing the process of digestion.

The process of digestion begins in the mouth, where the _____ tear, cut and grind the food into smaller pieces, and _____ in the saliva break down carbohydrates. The food then travels from the mouth to the stomach through a long tube called the _____. The food is moved by a wave-like muscle movement called _____. In the stomach, muscles churn the food and mix it with _____ to kill any harmful microorganisms. The food is also mixed with enzymes that break down proteins.

There are some organs in the digestive system that food does not pass through but that are still a vital part of the process. These are the pancreas, liver and gallbladder. The _____ produces enzymes, which are then released into the duodenum, the first part of the _____ intestine. The liver produces _____, a chemical which helps to break down fats. This chemical is stored in the _____ until it is also released into the duodenum.

In the small intestine, enzymes continue to break down carbohydrates, proteins and _____ into smaller molecules. These molecules are absorbed into the bloodstream through finger-like projections called _____. Undigested food then travels to the large intestine, where _____ is reabsorbed into the bloodstream. The remaining undigested food is stored in the _____ as faeces until it is ready to be released. Faeces are released from the _____ when you go to the toilet.

