
Digestive System
Functions
twinkl

Aim

- I can explain the functions of the digestive system.
- I can use scientific evidence to answer questions.

Success Criteria

- I can add functions to the parts of the digestive system.
- I can match the parts of the digestive system with their functions.
- I can explain the functions of the digestive system.
- I can use scientific evidence I have been given to answer questions.
- I can distinguish between scientific and non-scientific evidence when answering questions.

Salivary Glands

Function:

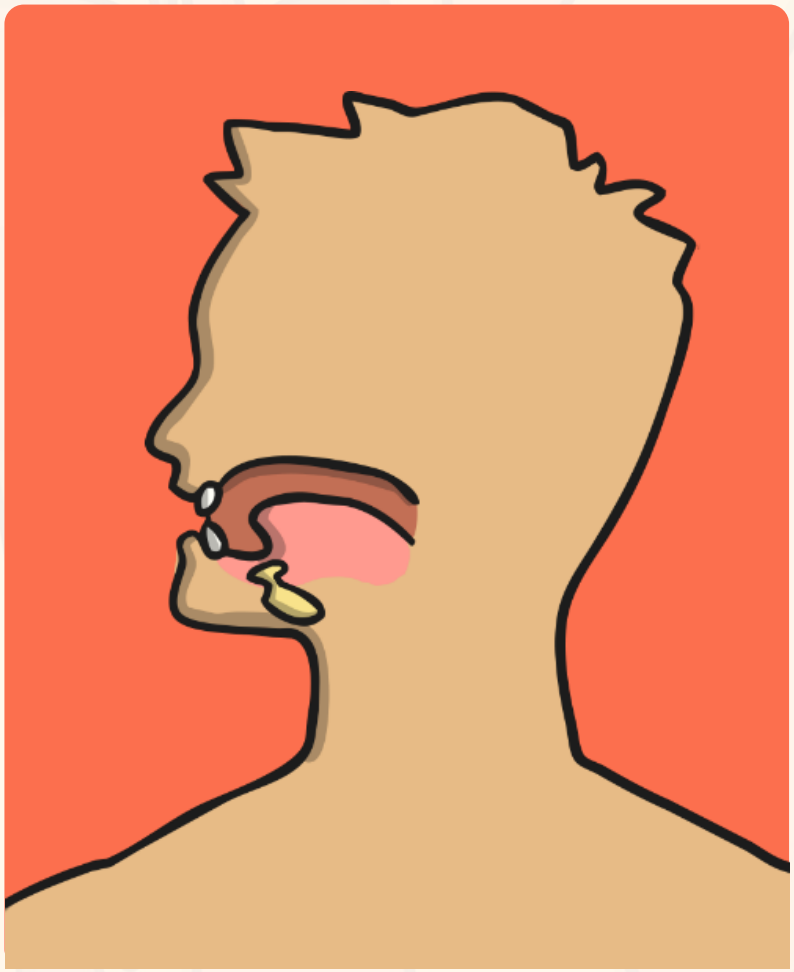
First part of the digestion process starts without you even eating!

The smell of food triggers the salivary glands to produce saliva (some call it your mouth watering).

The amount of saliva increases as you taste the food.

Saliva is mostly made of water and it helps you to chew, taste and swallow food.

Contains enzymes which start to break down the food we eat.



Mouth

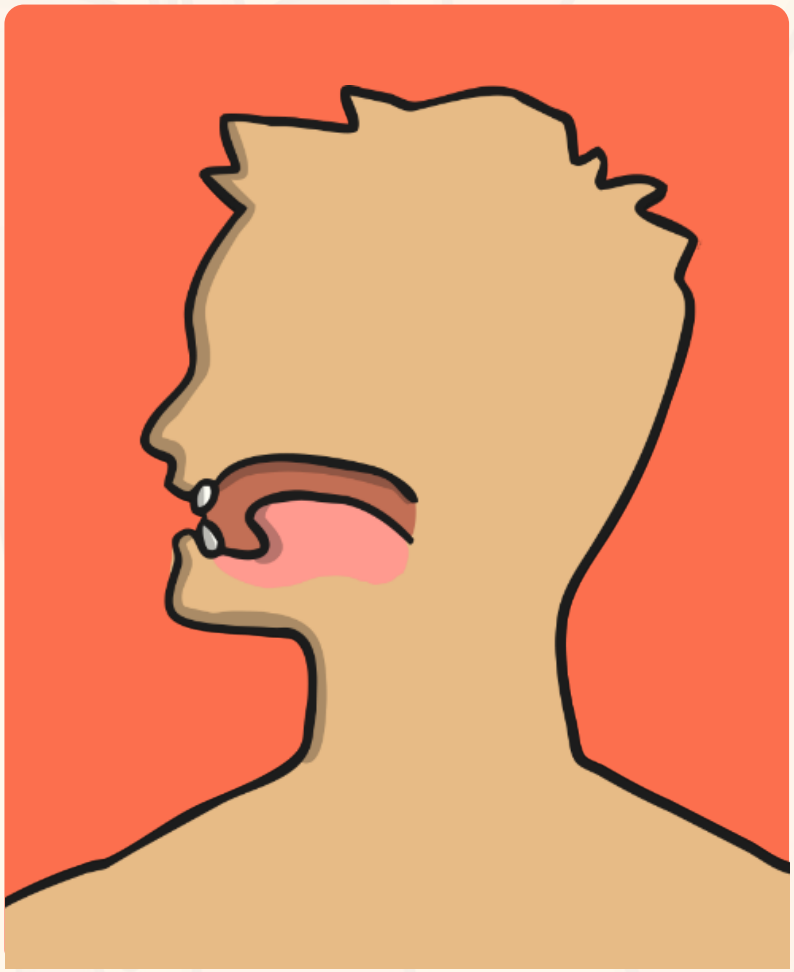
Function:

Entry point for food.

Where saliva mixes with food.

Location of tongue and teeth.

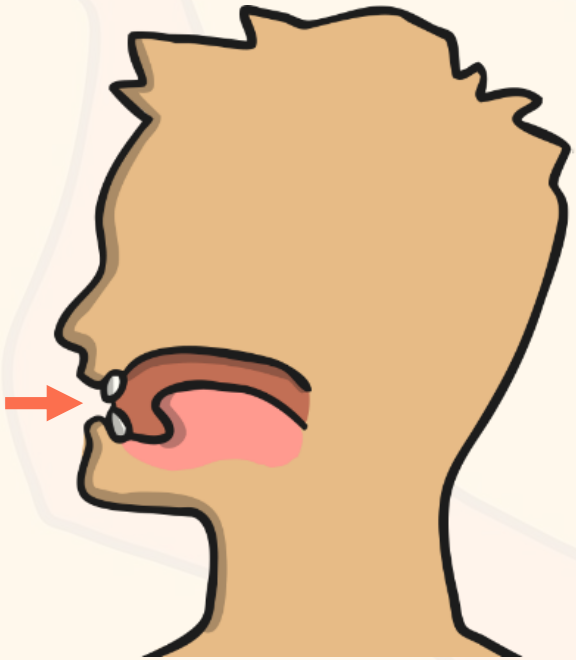
Top part of the mouth (soft palate) helps move food along to the oesophagus.



Teeth

Function:

Tear, cut and grind food into smaller pieces.



Tongue

Function:

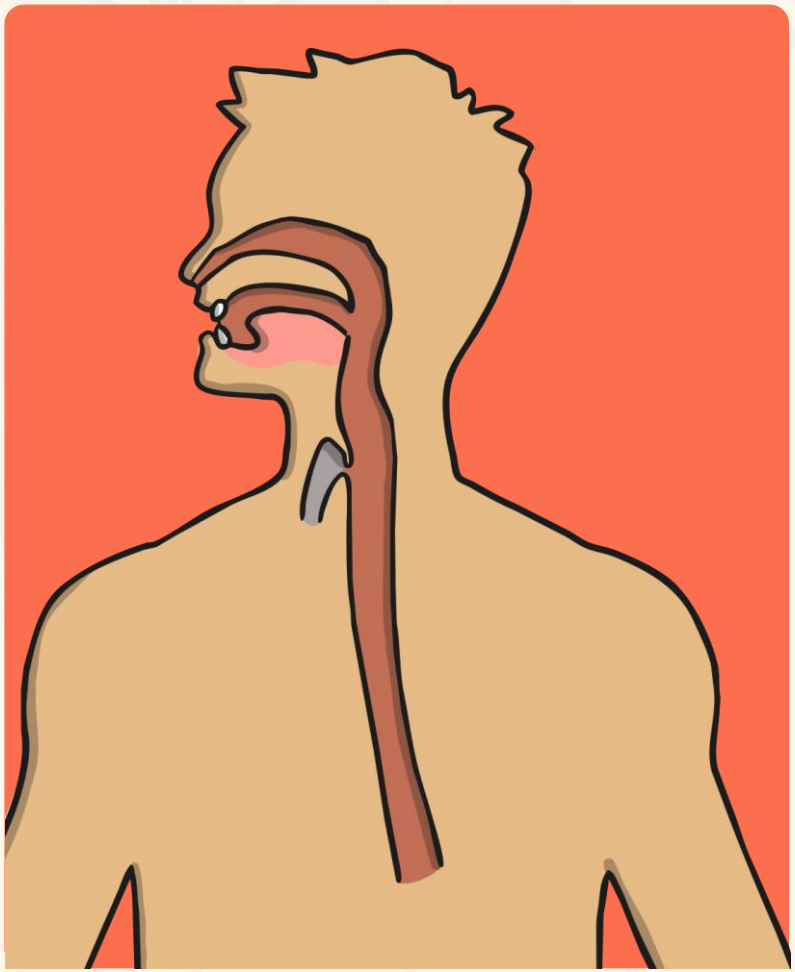
Helps mix the food and saliva.

Oesophagus

Function:

A muscular tube which forms the path from the mouth to the stomach.

Muscles contract and relax to move food down the oesophagus to the stomach.

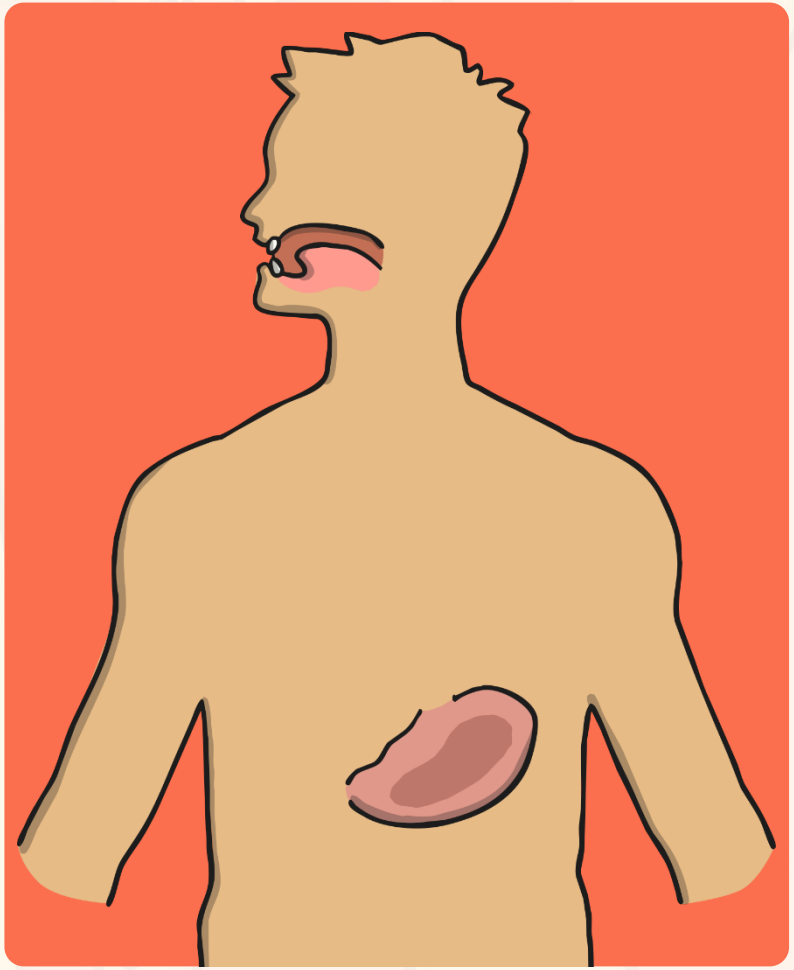


Stomach

Function:

Glands line the stomach produce acid and **enzymes** which breaks the food down further.

Muscles in the stomach mix the food.

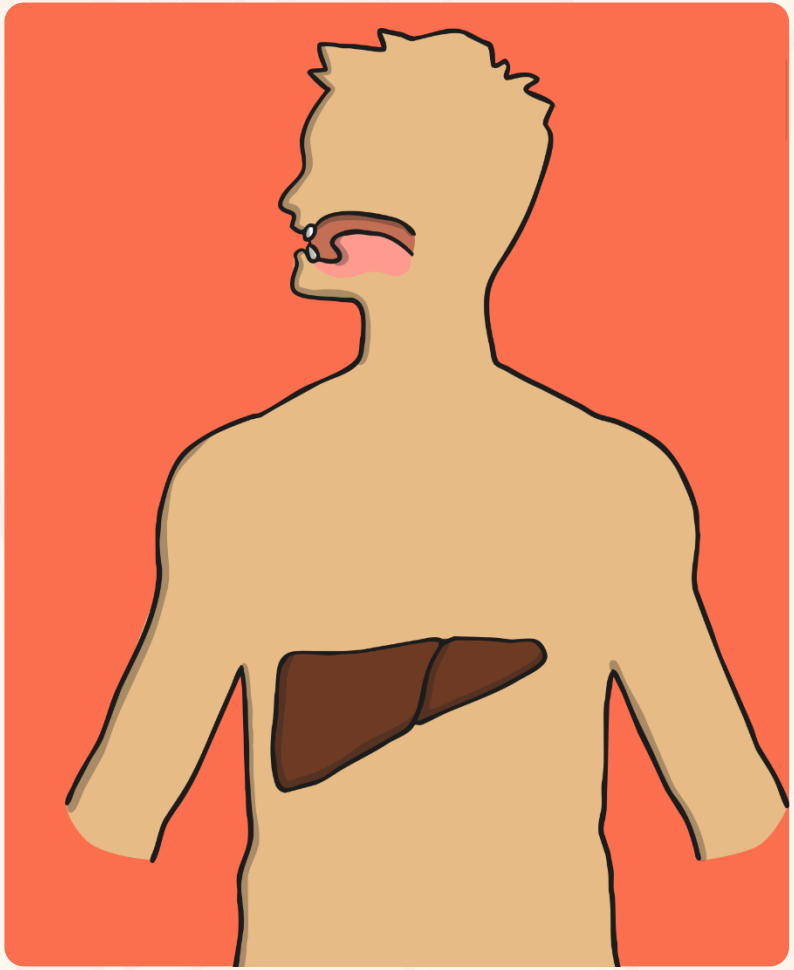


Liver

Function:

Produces bile which helps to absorb fats.

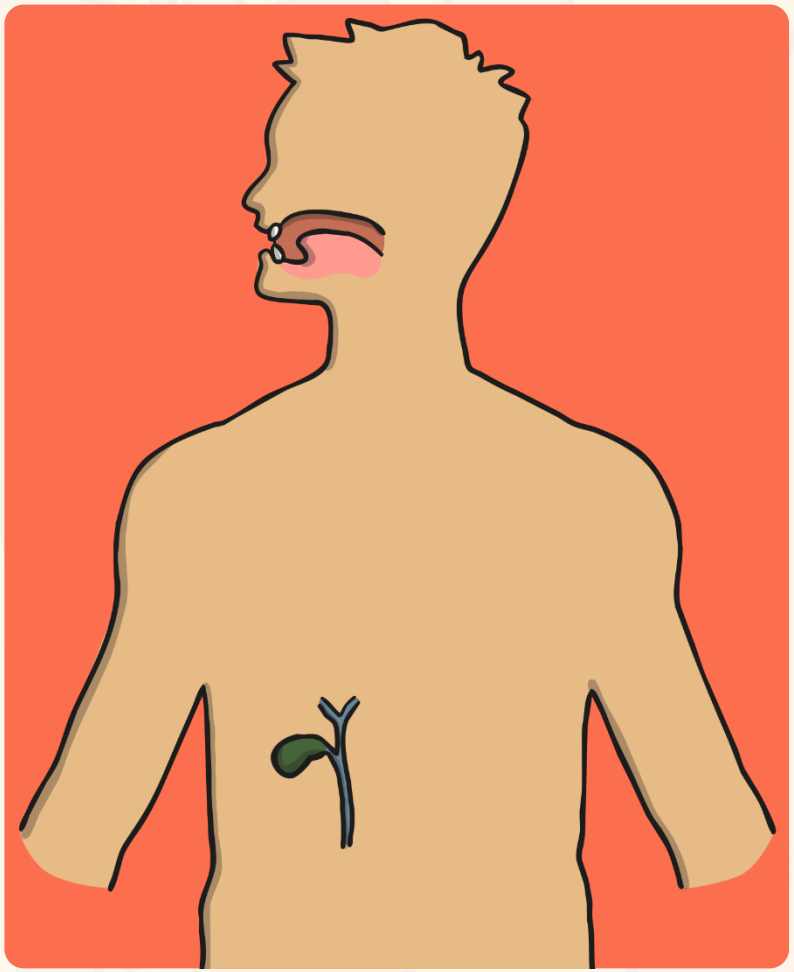
Bile is sent to the gallbladder to be stored.



Gallbladder

Function:

Releases bile into the duodenum when needed.

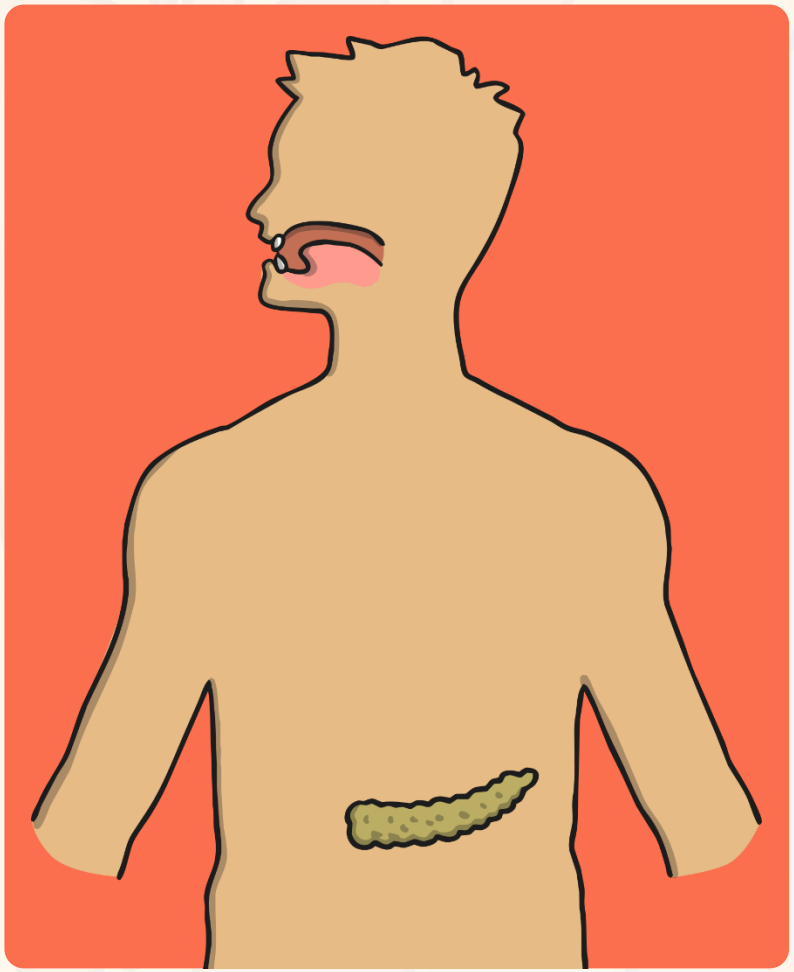


Pancreas

Function:

Produces enzymes to break down fats, proteins and carbohydrates.

Releases them into the duodenum.

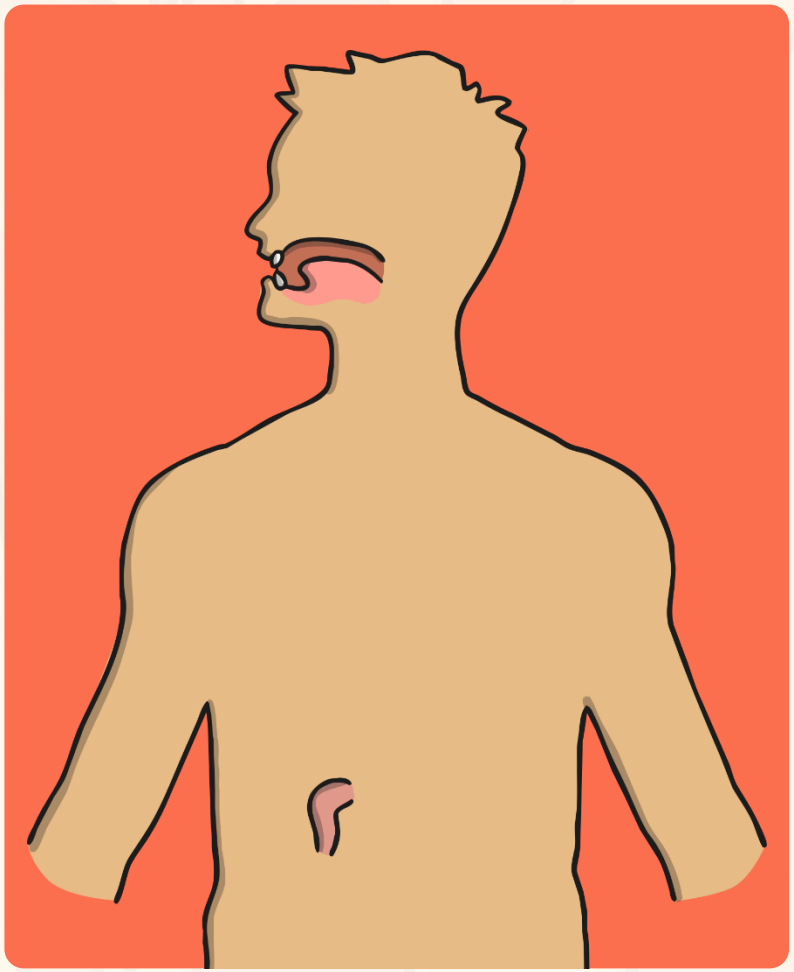


Duodenum

Function:

First part of the small intestine

Food is broken down by bile from the gallbladder and enzymes from the pancreas.

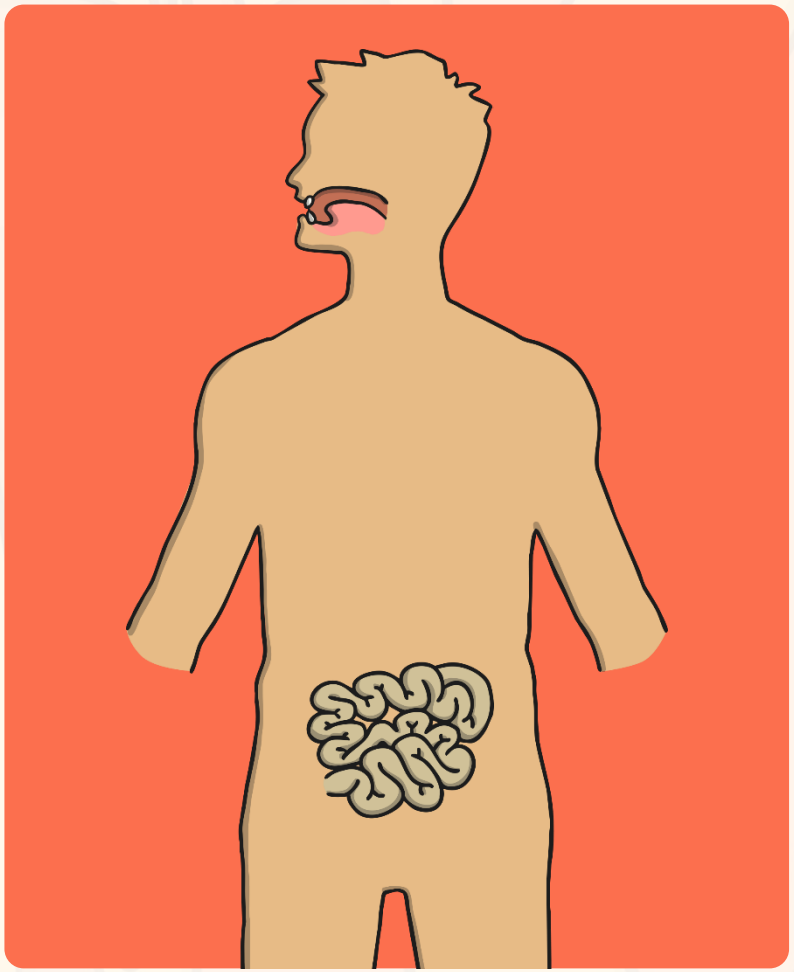


Small Intestine

Function:

The other parts of the small intestine – (jejunum and ileum) absorb nutrients from the food.

Pass any leftover broken down food to the large intestine.



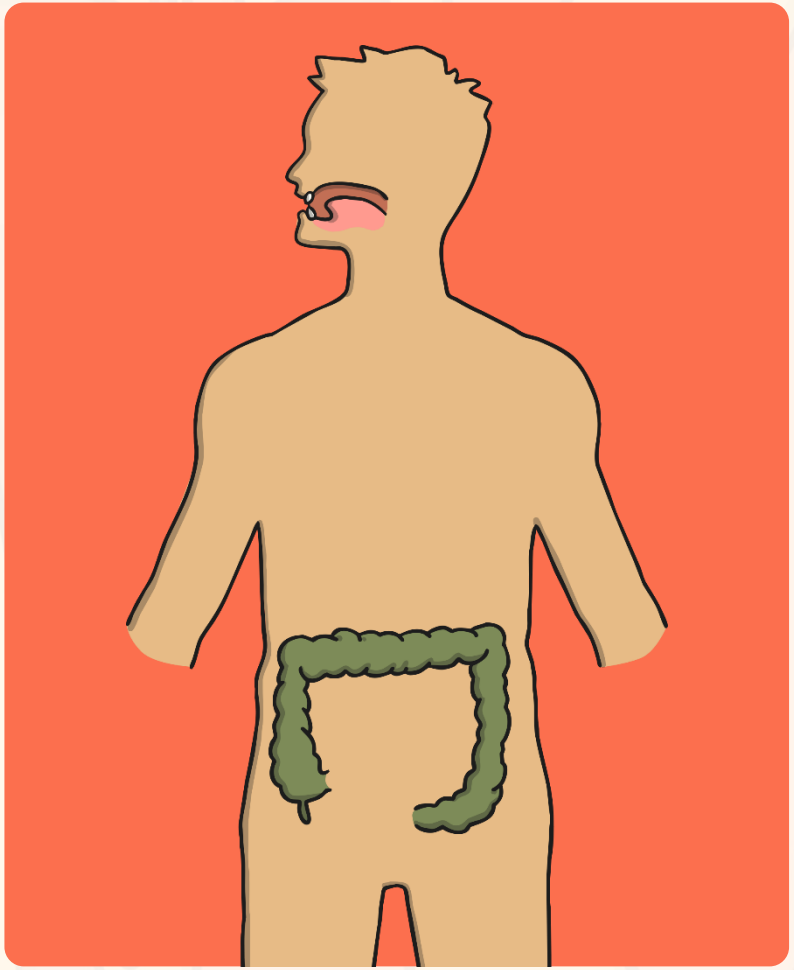
Large Intestine

Function:

Connects the small intestine to the rectum.

Absorbs water from waste food.

Forms stool from waste food.

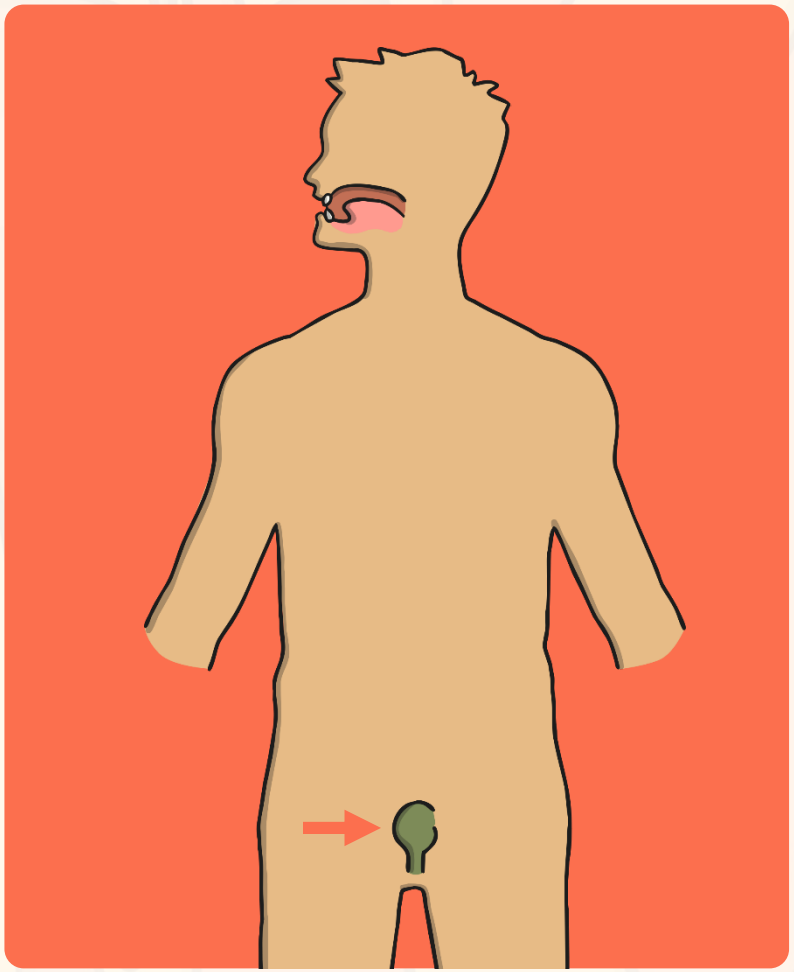


Rectum

Function:

Stores stool passed to it from the large intestine.

Makes brain aware of need to go to the toilet.



Anus

Function:

Releases the stool.

End of the digestive process.