Name: _____ Date: _____

Spit Starts Your Lunch

Circle group

Think of hot, cheesy pizza. Does your mouth get wet? That wet is saliva. Saliva is spit. Your mouth makes it all day.

Small parts called glands make saliva. They are under your tongue and in your cheeks. You smell food or see food. The glands make more.

Saliva has jobs. It wets food. Then food slides down when you swallow. It starts to break food into tiny bits. It rinses your mouth. It helps keep teeth clean.

Your lunch starts before the first bite gets to your tummy. Thank your spit!

Questions

1. What is another word for saliva?

_____

_____

2. What makes saliva?

_____

_____

3. What happens when you smell or see food?

_____

_____

4. Name one job saliva does?

_____

_____

5. Why is a dry cracker hard to swallow?

_____

_____

Words to know

saliva: the watery liquid in your mouth
glands: small parts of the body that make useful liquids
swallow: move food from your mouth down your throat

rinses: washes with water or another liquid
cheeks: the soft sides of your face

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Spit Starts Your Lunch

Triangle group

Think about warm, cheesy pizza. Does your mouth water? That wet feeling is saliva. Saliva is the plain word spit. Your mouth makes it all day long.

Small parts called glands under your tongue and inside your cheeks make saliva. When you smell food or see it, they get busy and make more.

Saliva has jobs. It wets food, so the food slides down your throat when you swallow. It also starts to break food into tiny bits that your body can use. And it rinses your mouth as you eat and helps keep your teeth clean.

Your lunch has already begun before your tummy gets a single bite. Thank your spit!

Questions

1. What is another word for saliva?

_____

_____

2. What makes saliva?

_____

_____

3. What happens when you smell or see food?

_____

_____

4. Name one job that saliva does?

_____

_____

5. Why might a dry cracker be hard to swallow?

_____

_____

Words to know

saliva: the watery liquid in your mouth
glands: small parts of the body that make useful liquids
swallow: move food from your mouth down your throat
rinses: washes with water or another liquid
cheeks: the soft sides of your face

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Spit Starts Your Lunch

Square group

Imagine a slice of warm, cheesy pizza sitting in front of you. Does your mouth begin to water? That wet feeling comes from saliva, which is simply the scientific word for spit. Your mouth produces it throughout the entire day.

Small organs called glands, located under your tongue and inside your cheeks, make saliva. Whenever you smell food or even see it, those glands become busy and make extra.

Saliva has several important jobs. It moistens food so that the food slides easily down your throat when you swallow. It also begins to break food into tiny pieces that your body can use. In addition, it rinses your mouth as you eat and helps keep your teeth clean.

Your lunch has already started working long before your tummy receives a single bite. Be grateful for your spit!

Questions

1. What is another word for saliva?

_____

_____

2. Which small organs make saliva, and where are they?

_____

_____

3. What happens when you smell or see food?

_____

_____

4. Name one important job that saliva does?

_____

_____

5. Why might a dry cracker be hard to swallow?

_____

_____

Words to know

saliva: the watery liquid in your mouth
glands: small parts of the body that make useful liquids
swallow: move food from your mouth down your throat
rinses: washes with water or another liquid
cheeks: the soft sides of your face

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Spit Starts Your Lunch

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Spit Starts Your Lunch

Easier · 92 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.6

1. Spit.
2. Small glands under your tongue and in your cheeks.
3. The glands make more saliva.
4. It wets food, breaks it into bits, or rinses your mouth.
5. It needs saliva to wet it so it can slide down.

Triangle: Spit Starts Your Lunch

This passage · 112 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.6

1. Spit.
2. Small glands under your tongue and inside your cheeks.
3. The glands make more saliva.
4. It wets food, starts breaking it down, or rinses your mouth.
5. It needs saliva to wet it so it can slide down.

Square: Spit Starts Your Lunch

Harder · 137 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.8

1. Spit.
2. Glands under your tongue and inside your cheeks.
3. The glands become busy and make extra saliva.
4. It moistens food, breaks food into tiny pieces, or rinses your mouth.
5. It needs saliva to moisten it so it can slide down your throat.