Name: _____ Date: _____

Where Food Goes

Circle group

Your body must break a sandwich into tiny bits to use it. This job is called digestion. It takes many hours, from the first bite to the end of the trip.

Digestion starts in the mouth. Your teeth chew food into small bits. Spit, called saliva, makes it wet. It starts to break the food down. When you swallow, food goes down a tube called the esophagus. Muscles squeeze the food along. That is why you can swallow when you are upside down!

The food drops into the stomach. Strong muscles churn it. Stomach juices have acid in them. They break the food into a thick liquid.

Next, the liquid moves to the small intestine, a long, coiled tube. Here the body takes in nutrients. Nutrients are the useful parts of food. They pass through the walls of the intestine into the blood. The blood takes them to each part of the body.

What the body can't use moves to the large intestine. It takes back water. The rest leaves the body as waste.

Questions

1. What is digestion?

_____

_____

2. What happens to food in the mouth?

_____

_____

3. What is the esophagus?

_____

_____

4. What does the stomach do to food?

_____

_____

5. What happens in the small intestine?

_____

_____

6. What does the large intestine do?

_____

_____

7. Why must food be broken into tiny bits?

_____

_____

Words to know

digestion: the way the body breaks food down so it can use it
saliva: the wet liquid in your mouth that helps break down food
esophagus: the tube that carries food from your mouth to your stomach
nutrients: the useful parts of food that the body needs to grow and have energy
intestine: a long tube where the body takes in nutrients and water

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: _____

Where Food Goes

Triangle group

When you eat a sandwich, your body has to break it into tiny pieces before it can use it. This job is called digestion. It takes many hours, from the first bite to the end of the trip.

Digestion begins in the mouth. Your teeth chew food into small bits, and saliva makes it wet and starts to break it down. When you swallow, the food goes down a tube called the esophagus. Muscles squeeze it along, which is why you can swallow even when you are upside down.

The food drops into the stomach. Strong muscles churn it, and stomach juices, which contain acid, break it into a thick liquid.

Next, the liquid moves into the small intestine, a long, coiled tube. Here the body takes in nutrients, the useful parts of food. The nutrients pass through the walls of the intestine into the blood, and the blood carries them to every part of the body.

What the body cannot use moves into the large intestine. It takes back water, and the rest leaves the body as waste.

Questions

1. What is digestion?

_____

_____

2. What happens to food in the mouth?

_____

_____

3. What is the esophagus?

_____

_____

4. What does the stomach do to food?

_____

_____

5. What happens in the small intestine?

_____

_____

6. What does the large intestine do?

_____

_____

7. Why does food have to be broken into tiny pieces?

_____

_____

Words to know

digestion: the way the body breaks food down so it can use it
saliva: the wet liquid in your mouth that helps break down food
esophagus: the tube that carries food from your mouth to your stomach
nutrients: the useful parts of food that the body needs to grow and have energy
intestine: a long tube where the body takes in nutrients and water

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: _____

Where Food Goes

Square group

When you eat a sandwich, your body must break it down into tiny particles before it can make use of it. This process is called digestion, and it requires many hours, from the first bite until the end of the journey.

Digestion begins in the mouth. Your teeth grind food into small fragments, while saliva moistens it and begins breaking it down. When you swallow, the food travels down a muscular tube called the esophagus. Muscles squeeze the food along, which explains why you can swallow even while you are upside down.

The food then drops into the stomach. Powerful muscles churn it, and digestive juices containing acid break it down into a thick liquid.

Next, the liquid passes into the small intestine, a lengthy, coiled tube. Here the body absorbs nutrients, the beneficial components of food. The nutrients pass through the intestinal walls into the bloodstream, which transports them to every part of the body.

Whatever the body is unable to use continues into the large intestine. The large intestine reabsorbs water, and the remainder exits the body as waste.

Questions

1. How does the passage define digestion?

_____

_____

2. Describe what happens to food in the mouth.

_____

_____

3. What is the esophagus?

_____

_____

4. How does the stomach process food?

_____

_____

5. What takes place in the small intestine?

_____

_____

6. What is the role of the large intestine?

_____

_____

7. Why must food be broken down into tiny particles?

_____

_____

Words to know

digestion: the way the body breaks food down so it can use it
saliva: the wet liquid in your mouth that helps break down food
esophagus: the tube that carries food from your mouth to your stomach
nutrients: the useful parts of food that the body needs to grow and have energy
intestine: a long tube where the body takes in nutrients and water

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: Where Food Goes

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

Circle: Where Food Goes

Easier · 174 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.4

1. The job of breaking food into tiny bits the body can use.
2. Teeth chew it into small bits. Saliva makes it wet and starts to break it down.
3. The tube that food goes down when you swallow.
4. Strong muscles churn it. Stomach juices with acid break it into a thick liquid.
5. The body takes in nutrients. They pass through the walls into the blood.
6. It takes back water. The rest leaves the body as waste.
7. Nutrients must pass through the walls of the intestine into the blood. Only tiny bits can do that.

Triangle: Where Food Goes

This passage · 179 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.9

1. The job of breaking food into tiny pieces that the body can use.
2. Teeth chew it into small bits, and saliva wets it and starts to break it down.
3. A tube that carries swallowed food to the stomach.
4. Strong muscles churn it, and stomach juices with acid break it into a thick liquid.
5. The body takes in nutrients, which pass through the walls of the intestine into the blood.
6. It takes back water, and the rest leaves the body as waste.
7. Nutrients must pass through the walls of the intestine into the blood, and only tiny pieces can do that.

Square: Where Food Goes

Harder · 181 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 7.8

1. The process of breaking food down into tiny particles the body can use.
2. Teeth grind it into small fragments, and saliva moistens it and begins breaking it down.
3. A muscular tube that carries swallowed food to the stomach.
4. Powerful muscles churn it, and digestive juices containing acid break it down into a thick liquid.
5. The body absorbs nutrients, which pass through the intestinal walls into the bloodstream.
6. It reabsorbs water, and the remainder exits the body as waste.
7. Nutrients must pass through the intestinal walls into the bloodstream, and only tiny particles can do that.