

The Digestive System

Chapter 17: The Digestive System · Topic 1

Key Concept

Digestion begins in the mouth, where teeth break down food and saliva starts breaking down starches.

Food then travels through the oesophagus to the stomach, where acids and enzymes further break it down.

In the small intestine, nutrients are absorbed into the bloodstream, while the large intestine absorbs water and forms waste.

The digestive system works together as a series of organs to ensure our body gets the nutrients it needs from food.

Quick Revision Notes

- Digestion begins in the mouth.
- Teeth break down food; saliva starts starch digestion.
- Food travels through the oesophagus to the stomach.
- The stomach uses acids and enzymes.
- The small intestine absorbs nutrients.
- The large intestine absorbs water.
- The large intestine forms waste.
- The digestive system is a series of connected organs.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw and label the digestive system.
- 2 Discuss what happens to food in the mouth.
- 3 Explain the stomach's role in digestion.
- 4 Research the small intestine's function.
- 5 Discuss what the large intestine does.
- 6 Explain why digestion is important.