**The Digestive System**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mouth | About 5 feet long |
| Esophagus | Without it, you won’t die |
| Stomach | Can hold 1.5 liter of content |
| Small Intestines | About 23 feet long |
| Large Intestines | About 25cm long |
|  | 1.5 liter of saliva is generated here |
|  | Takes about 7 seconds for food to travel through this part of the digestive system |
|  | When you blush, this organ turns red too! |
|  | Food stays in here from 1 – 4 hours |
|  | Food stays in here from 18 hours to 2 days |
|  | Most food digestion happens here |
|  | Food are broken down into smaller chunks in here |

**The Digestive System**

Food is the fuel that helps keep our bodies moving. Food has to be brought into the body and broken down into small pieces before it can be used. This process is carried out by the digestive system.

Food enters the digestive system through the mouth, where your teeth and tongue help to break down the food. Saliva also helps to moisten the chewed food before it travels down to the stomach. To get to the stomach, food passes through the esophagus, which pushes the food using wave-like contractions.

In the stomach, fluids such as acid and mucus are added which further break down the food into tiny particles and help it to move along. Next, the particles enter the small intestine where more fluids are added to help make the food useful for the body. By the time the food reaches the end of the small intestine, the necessary nutrients have been absorbed by the body. The large intestine stores the waste products before they are expelled from the body through the anus.

**The Human Body - Digestive System**

|  |
| --- |
| What special chemicals do saliva contain? What do these chemicals do? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| What is the esophagus? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| What are gastric juices made of? What does it do to the food we eat? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| What is the first part of the small intestines call? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| What is bile? Where does it come from? What does it do? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| What are the jobs of the large intestines? |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| List 8 wonder questions: |
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |
| 5. |
| 6. |
| 7. |
| 8. |