

In this unit: Pupils will learn how the body digest food. They will learn about the impact of different substances (including sugar) on human teeth. They will learn about the stages of tooth decay and how it can be caused. They will also learn about how it can be prevented and treated. Pupils will create a video guide for younger children, explaining how to brush their teeth properly using scientific language.

Children should already know:

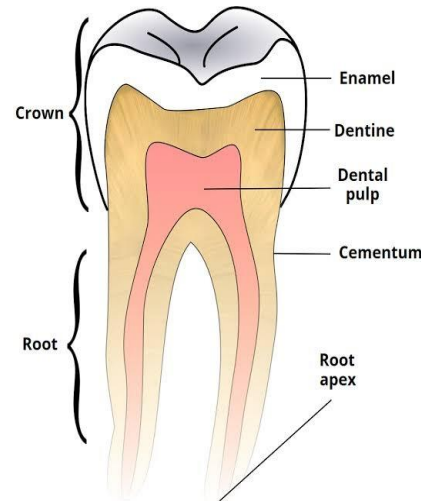
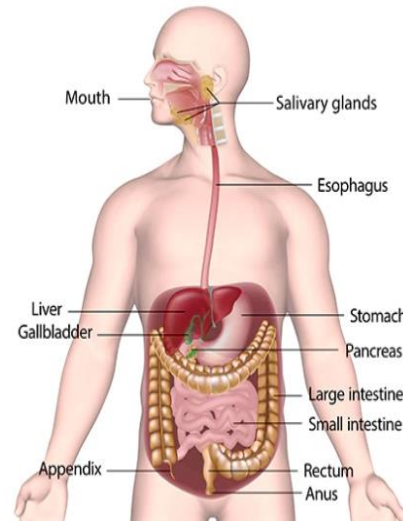
- that all animals need water, air and food to survive.
- that animals get nutrition from the foods they eat.
- that all animals are can be classified as carnivores, omnivores or herbivores.
- that excretion is one of the seven living processes.

At the end of this unit, children will know:

- that there are three different types of teeth – incisor, canine and molar.
- that teeth are used for cutting and chewing food, and are the start of the digestive process.
- that humans look after their teeth by brushing and ensuring that they do not eat foods high in sugar.
- that not looking after teeth can lead to tooth decay.
- that food is digested in the mouth, stomach and small intestine.
- that food is absorbed into the bloodstream in the small intestine.
- that excess water is absorbed back into the body in the large intestine.
- that any undigested food passes out of the anus as faeces when we go to the toilet.

Pupils could investigate:

- what happens during the digestive process.
- the effect of sugar on the teeth.
- the effect saliva has on food.
- whether teeth in carnivores and herbivores are the same.



### Key Vocabulary

absorb	to soak up or take in
anus	the opening where the end of the rectum where faeces are excreted from the body
canine	pointed teeth near the front of the mouth in humans and some animals
decay	gradually destroyed by a natural process; rotted away
digest	to break down ingested (eaten) food
enamel	the hard white substance that forms the outer part of the tooth
enzymes	a substance, created in the body which acts to helps to break down foods
excretion	the processes of eliminating faeces, urine or sweat from the body
faeces	the solid waste substance that animals and humans excrete through their anus
incisor	the teeth found at the front of your mouth which is used to bite your food
large intestine	the final stage of digestion where waste is prepared for removal
liver	a large organ found in the abdomen and cleans the blood
molar	the large, flat teeth at towards the back of your mouth that are used for chewing food
nutrition	the process of taking food into the body and absorbing the nutrients in those foods
oesophagus	the part of your body that carries food from the throat to the stomach
pancreas	a large, flat liver that produces enzymes
rectum	the chamber at the end of the small intestine ending at the anus
saliva	the watery liquid that forms in the mouth and helps you to chew and digest food
small intestine	a long, winding tube in your abdomen; it is where most digestion takes place and where nutrients are absorbed
stomach	the organ inside your body where food is digested before it moves to the intestines
undigested	food that is not broken down or used by the body

Key Questions:

- what role do different organs play in digestion?
- which substances decay the teeth?
- where are the digestive organs located in the body?
- how are teeth structured?